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U.S. 'PREPARED TO RENOUNCE' ABM TREATY FOR SDI

LD060027 Moscow TASS in English 0022 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 6 TASS -- The United States is prepared to renounce the ABM Treaty in order to fully implement its "star wars" programme. This has been directly stated in hearings in the Senate Armed Services Committee by Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger. He has emphasized that, if during current research the Pentagon succeeds in working out a reliable anti-missile defence system, the USA should not hesitate for a second and should deploy such a system.

ISRAELYAN SEES 'REAL POSSIBILITY' FOR TEST BAN

LD052111 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1745 GMT 5 Feb 86

[From the "International Diary" program, presented by Viktor Levin]

[Excerpt] Dispatches from Geneva report the 1st day of work at the Disarmament Conference. Representatives of 40 states are taking part in it. The opening session was addressed by Comrade Israelyan, leader of the Soviet delegation, who stressed that the Soviet Union sees favorable opportunities for overcoming the confrontational trends in international politics and the adoption of specific decisions in disarmament. The Soviet representative drew particular attention to the real possibility of achieving, even in the near future, a solution to the problem of halting nuclear tests. The Soviet Union introduced a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions from 6 August 1985. Now we have extended the moratorium until 31 March. If the United States follows the Soviet example, we shall continue to carry out no nuclear explosions. The Soviet Union's initiative has received the broadest approval from many political public circles of the world. They rightly saw in it a real step toward a total cessation of nuclear tests.

SOVIET-U.S. STRATEGIC ARMS GROUP MEETS IN GENEVA

LD051219 Moscow TASS in English 1214 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 5 TASS -- The group on strategic armaments has held a meeting here today within the framework of Soviet-American negotiations on nuclear and space armaments.

NEW YORK TIMES CARRIES GORBACHEV ARMS STATEMENT

LD051130 Moscow TASS in English 1102 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 5 TASS -- THE NEW YORK TIMES has carried the full text of a statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on January 15, in which he presented proposals on the complete elimination of nuclear weapons in the world by the year 2000.

'PRACTICAL DEEDS' AWAITED IN RESPONSE TO STATEMENT

LD051507 Moscow TASS in English 1503 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 5 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes:

Three weeks have passed since the Soviet Union put forward its large-scale program with a well-thought-out schedule for the complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons with a ban on space strike systems. As they continue extensively to discuss and comment on these initiatives, notable politicians and public figures and the mass media in different countries stress over and over again that the Soviet proposals constitute a milestone in the Soviet Union's struggle for strengthening and safeguarding peace and for enabling mankind to enter the third millennium without nuclear weapons.

The world is welcoming the Soviet peace offensive -- but it obviously is not to the liking of those forces in the West, first and foremost in the USA, which link their policy not to prospects for the revival and extension of detente but to plans for the further intensive material preparations for war. Naturally, today, when international relations are coloured with "the spirit of Geneva" and when millions of people are protesting ever stronger against the chaos of the nuclear arms race, even many proponents of the imperialist policy "from strength" do not dare openly call for the escalation of the arms race. But nowadays the peoples judge policies pursued by states and governments not by their words but by their real readiness for a new approach and for a fresh look at events and processes on the international scene. However, Washington's foreign policy causes puzzlement and even wariness.

The implementation of the program of ridding the world of nuclear weapons is possible only if the United States renounces its plans to militarize space. But what is the answer of Washington policy makers to Moscow's appeal for the cancellation of the militarist plans of "star wars" preparations? Some time ago U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger publicly stated that he was very worried by the Soviet Union's continued linkage of its proposals on arms cuts to Washington's renunciation of SDI. The U.S. President has now said in his State of the Union address to Congress that the United States remains fully committed to its space program, allegedly a "security shield" intended to make nuclear weapons obsolete.

These are old and absolutely fallacious arguments! Many authoritative politicians, experts and military specialists both in the USSR and in the West, including the USA, stress with concrete facts and calculations that the purpose and meaning of the "star wars" program is to use the latest achievements of science and technology and to extend the arms race into space in order to secure military-strategic superiority and to gain a capability to deliver the first strike while repulsing or minimizing retaliation. In other words, SDI means not defense but offense and the escalation of nuclear arms arsenals. Obviously, the other side would have in these circumstances to take adequate measures to ensure its security, which is bound to initiate another round of the arms race of an unprecedented scope and with unpredictable consequences.

There has never been in the history of warfare such a dangerous plan as Washington's "star wars" program, which is pushing the world to a point of no return!

This is becoming more and more clear to many people in the United States itself. And if there is any "commitment" to the "star wars" program in America, it is not the American people, who like the Soviet people want peace and dependable security, nor realistic American politicians who are committed to that militarist program but first and foremost those forces in the USA which stand for the interests and ambitions of the powerful military-industrial complex, the Californian and other "arms kings" earning nine-digit profits from the production of new and "supernew" weapons.

In the past five years the aggregate profits of the 10 leading U.S. military-industrial corporations alone have grown by 150 percent while the plans to militarize space promise those war merchants even fatter profits.

There are many people in the Pentagon, in the military industrial complex and in the administration who have to choose between peace, on the one hand, and profit, on the other, Gus Hall, the leader of the American Communists, justly points out. And they will continue to give preference to profit even if this means the transfer of the arms race into outer peace and the escalation of the threat of nuclear annihilation.

Time and developments will tell if the powers that be in the USA are prepared to respond with practical deeds to major Soviet proposals pointing a way out of the nuclear deadlock. As for the USSR, it is prepared to cooperate extensively with all those who act from positions of reason, goodwill and awareness of their responsibility for ensuring a future without wars or weapons for mankind.

GORBACHEV STATEMENT PROVIDES ALTERNATIVE TO ARMS

PM051029 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Jan 86 p 14

[Own political observer Fedor Burlatskiy article: "Great Dream and Realistic Plan"]

[Text] It is 2 weeks since M.S. Gorbachev's statement was published. The stream of responses to it is not only failing to die down, but is increasing. After statements by the leaders of various states, the press, radio, and TV in essentially all countries have joined the discussion of our proposals.

My attention was drawn by a phrase in a commentary. It said this: M.S. Gorbachev's dream. This assessment is addressed to the idea of the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. And the assessment is expressed with some sympathy, but with a certain doubt about the reality of the task. It is too good to be true, apparently. A mere trifle to eliminate all nuclear arsenals numbering 55,000 warheads belonging to the five great powers -- the United States, the USSR, Britain, France, and China. A mere trifle to coordinate the positions of all these powers and take the security interests of each of them into account.

Many other commentaries which use the word "dream" one way or another feature the theme that our hopes of entirely destroying such monstrous weapons, at least in the foreseeable future, are unrealistic. Certain elements, as a rule, are picked out from the statement mainly concerning the current talks in Geneva on halving the nuclear arms capable of reaching each other's territories, on the complete elimination of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European zone, and on the elimination of chemical weapons. Of course, completing these tasks alone would be of immense importance. But why is the central idea -- the idea of completely eliminating nuclear weapons worldwide -- somehow pushed aside?

However complex this task may be, however difficult it may be to coordinate the positions of the Soviet Union, the United States, and the other nuclear powers, we must all know where we are going and what our ultimate goals are. This approach will also help to coordinate phased, transitional resolutions.

Moreoever, I heard the word "dream" in this context -- the context of the struggle against the nuclear threat -- back in Geneva when I was there during the summit between M.S. Gorbachev and R. Reagan. A U.S. journalist reported that President Reagan talked about his dream during the famous fireside chats between the two leaders of our powers. And indeed, in one of his first speeches after the summit, President Reagan talked about this chat: "I set forth our Strategic Defense Initiative -- our research program envisaging the possibility of creating [sozdaniye] defensive systems which could ultimately protect all states from the threat of nuclear war...People would finally stop being scared of each other. That is my dream."

Thus, the leader of the United States, which was the first to create the atomic bomb and start the nuclear arms race, now dreams of saving his country and, so he says, other countries from fearing nuclear destruction. In what way? By creating [sozdaniye] even more fantastic weapons.

Is this a new idea? Is it perhaps an original invention specifically for nuclear strategy, which ordinary human minds are incapable of grasping? Not at all. In the second half of the 19th century A. Nobel invented dynamite; this is what he stated in this connection: "Perhaps my plants will put a stop to war faster than your congresses. The day that two major army formations can destroy each other in an instant, all civilized nations will be horrified and demobilize their armies." The Franco-Prussian war happened soon after and World War I followed 43 years later.

In Geneva, it was reasonably put to the President that, "we are told about the desire to remove fear of missiles and eliminate nuclear weapons entirely. That desire can only be welcomed, it fully accords with the goals of our policy. But it is much simpler to eliminate these arms without creating [sozdavat] space strike systems for that purpose. Why spend tens of hundreds of billions of dollars and pile up mountains of space arms alongside the mountains of nuclear arms? Where is the sense in it?"

Now the entire world, all nuclear and non-nuclear states, and all international public opinion has been presented with the Soviet plan for ridding the earth of nuclear weapons by the end of this century. The plan is specific, well-balanced, and businesslike; it clearly defines our proposals at each stage of the entire nuclear disarmament process. This, I am convinced, is where the true dream of each sober-minded person on earth is realized.

Yes, representatives of our generation have dreamed of this from the outset, from the moment that the first atomic bombs were dropped. The instantaneous destruction of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the turning of 200,000 people -- burned in an unthinkable hellfire of 10 million degrees -- into cosmic dust shook our imagination. The atomic bomb, carrying the threat of death for hundreds of thousands of people, and much more so the thermonuclear potential of the 55,000 bombs held on earth require a radical change in human thinking.

Of course, we are not simpletons. That has rightly been said. Our partners must firmly learn to do as they would be done by. Nobody will succeed in wrecking the party that has been gained at the cost of immensely strenuous efforts and privations.

But why all these military games? Why brandish in front of each other all the latest inventions of a monstrous imagination which our forefathers could only have dreamed of in a nightmare? Everyone is already sufficiently convinced that outplaying each other is impossible, using these toys is impossible, and scaring the other side with them is impossible. What remains? To end the game, to end military rivalry, and to destroy nuclear weapons. To destroy them forever. Let scientists and engineers in all countries invent rockets for joint flights to Mars and point mankind toward the stars rather than toward "star wars."

Yes, mankind must acquire a new way of thinking if it does not want to vanish forever from the face of our planet and, probably, from the entire universe which, perhaps, created us for the great goal of self-knowledge and development.

Back in my childhood I -- like, probably, many people of my generation -- hated the atomic bomb. It was not even the sense of fear that President Reagan talks about, because it is absurd to fear instant disappearance. No, we hate the bomb as something monstrous and fantastic beyond the bounds of human consciousness and human relations. Saying that nuclear weapons are inhuman is to say virtually nothing.

Even the pictures of hell painted by the genius Michelangelo in the Vatican's Sistine Chapel -- and they have always been considered the ultimate in human suffering -- even those pictures are just a child's game compared with nuclear reality.

Yes, this is the dream of our generation which recalls a time when there was no atomic bomb. A dream of returning to the past, where there was no place for these monstrous weapons. I am very much afraid that succeeding generations born in the period of the bomb's existence will no longer be able to believe that man is capable of destroying it.

The main argument I heard from my Western colleagues was that technical progress is inexorable and man must come to terms with the sword of Damocles which will constantly hang over his head. That, they said, is the logic of history and the will of providence itself. Nothing can be done about it. The dream of destroying nuclear weapons thus remains a dream. The only thing that can be done is to create [sozdavat] a shield against nuclear missile weapons. Of course, subsequent generations will again create some kind of weapons which may be able to break through or bypass this shield. And so on until the end of time. Similar opinions from skeptics, disbelievers, and "realists," not to mention people who cannot give up the illusion of might engendered by nuclear weapons, have been voiced in the West in response to M.S. Gorbachev's plan.

The proposals to completely eliminate nuclear weapons are currently being presented in the West as unfeasible. Are they a dream? Yes they are, if you like, but only in the sense in which Herbert Wells, the well-known science fiction writer, spoke of Lenin's dream of creating a new society on the ruins of a hemorrhaging Russia. You remember, of course, that Wells called Lenin the "dreamer in the Kremlin." It is now obvious how important dreams are when they pose noble goals and accord with people's aspirations. This sort of dream melds with reality and serves as a reliable bridge into the future.

Maybe our partners in the Western countries do not agree with all elements of the proposed plan. Maybe the tasks of the first stage of disarmament will be completed first. That would already be a major victory on the road toward the ultimate goal. But they should also think once again about what the creation [sozdaniye] of new types of arms is leading to.

TIME magazine featured an article entitled "A Farewell to Arms" -- you will remember, of course, that this was the title of E. Hemingway's famous novel. The article states: "The Soviet Union has called for the complete elimination of nuclear missiles, warheads, bombs, and other weapons on our planet. But this was not presented as a vague future aim: The Soviet leader formulated quite a detailed three-stage plan to be implemented by the end of this century." Moreover, after this positive assessment the writer of the article tries to dispute many specific elements in our plan, alleging that it ignores the difficult choice which must repeatedly be made in the process of implementing it in order to maintain an unstable equality in nuclear forces.

But this is wrong. The Soviet proposals precisely stipulate the maintenance of the principle of equality of forces with a simultaneous phased reduction in their levels. Furthermore, let the West formulate its own alternative, taking into account our proposals, its own concrete plan for disarmament and present it in place of the plans for a new phase in the arms race, including the creation [sozdaniye] of space weapons.

We understand perfectly the need to coordinate our plan with the other nuclear powers' proposals. But let us travel precisely this road and agree straightaway on our ultimate goals. We could just agree on the goal of the talks currently under way in Geneva or on ending the arms race on earth and preventing it in space.

Now it is necessary to take the next and, perhaps, even more important step -- to agree on our ultimate goals, on the need for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons. All the more so as this has been discussed in general terms both by President Reagan and other Western leaders.

It must be said that many specialists in these countries properly understand the dilemma. Here is what THE NEW YORK TIMES wrote: "Last week's Soviet initiative again makes us realize the Soviet Union's new dynamism. Of course, the USSR has called for total disarmament before. This time Moscow has given new force to the idea, outlining specific time frames, which evidently marks a serious approach to this most important problem of the day. The Russians have hereby challenged the main argument on which Reagan bases his 'Strategic Defense Initiative,' claiming that a strong space shield is the best way to avoid the threat of nuclear war."

Nonetheless, most Western -- and particularly U.S. -- press commentators continue to defend the need to retain nuclear weapons. P. Geyelin, a U.S. specialist on these problems, writes: "To pretend that the world can ever be entirely rid of the threat of nuclear arms is to belittle the importance of the debates on arms control. After all, the hope is thereby created that there actually is an alternative to the nuclear potential for deterrence. But the unavoidable truth is that there is no alternative."

There is an alternative! And it is now being proposed by a power which, having a mighty nuclear potential, is striving for the great goal of entirely removing nuclear weapons from people's lives. Conventional, non-nuclear arms and civilized relations among states can completely fulfill the function of mutual deterrence.

A new, fresh approach to the problem of peace policy is needed. This approach was stated just before and particularly during the Geneva summit between the Soviet and U.S. leaders. This approach lies at the very basis of M.S. Gorbachev's recent statement on disarmament questions. The problem of survival as the main problem of the nuclear era demands new thinking on the part of all people around the world.

Human thought is not always able to grasp changes on an historic scale. This shortcoming is particularly dangerous now that the threat of nuclear annihilation has reached each home and each family.

Yes, mankind needs civilized relations more than ever in order to achieve the key task of our time -- the elimination of the threat of thermonuclear war. The way out is to learn the art of living together, to develop friendly relations among states and peoples, to organize mutually advantageous cooperation, and through joint efforts to shape a new model and a new type of international relations befitting our nuclear age.

Soviet people probably realized this before anyone else, because we know and remember what war is. We do not simply know this, but feel it with our entire being and our entire wounded soul, since there is not a single family among us in which a loved one -- father, mother, brother, or daughter -- has not been killed.

This must be understood and cannot fail to be understood by Americans and all other people. Then the plan announced by our country for the total elimination of nuclear weapons and gradual phased disarmament will turn into joint solutions on the part of the entire world community in the interests of security and the prosperity of all the earth's peoples.

SPACE WARFARE BECOMING U.S. 'MAINSTREAM POLICY'

LD051543 Moscow TASS in English 1415 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 5 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

A super-fast "transatmospheric" craft is being developed within the framework of the U.S. policy of militarization of outer space. It is a component of the "star wars" program, officially known as the "Strategic Defence Initiative." The President mentioned the project in his "State of the Union" address to the joint sitting of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress on Tuesday [4 February]. It is known as an Orient Express and models of the craft, according to UPI, are being developed by Lockheed, McDonnell-Douglas and the Rockwell International Corporation.

U.S. specialists say that the craft is intended to fly both in the atmosphere and in near-earth space at a speed 25 times the speed of sound.

If we leave aside sensationalism, on which Washington is obviously laying emphasis nowadays, we may wonder about the purpose of the project. The U.S. CBS T.V. company noted today that the craft would be able to carry heavier payloads (than the Challenger shuttle space ship, which crashed recently) for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration as it develops space stations, and also for the Pentagon as it builds a "star wars" system.

The craft is really intended for "star wars" because it is obvious from Reagan's "State of the Union" address that SDI actually constitutes the foundation for the future of America as a whole. This means that preparations for nuclear warfare, inter alia, in space, far from being cancelled by the U.S. Administration, are becoming a mainstream policy. The arms race is being spurred on in every field and Washington will not be able to justify it by any rhetoric. It is being carried on to make the U.S. nuclear arms arsenals invulnerable and to give Washington a free hand to deliver the first nuclear strike. Defending their "star wars" program, administration officials are claiming that the United States is developing systems capable of detecting Soviet missile launchings within one minute and destroying them in the initial phase of their flight. But this precisely constitutes a first nuclear strike doctrine: With such a strategy it is always possible to fake Soviet missile launchings and to activate space strike systems.

However, the United States does not have a monopoly of the development of advanced military technology and what it can do in the field of advanced weaponry can be done by others. This is illustrated by today's balance of forces. However, by going ahead with its "star wars" program, the U.S. Administration is throwing the doors to space wide open for the arms race. The Soviet Union suggests in its latest initiatives that nuclear disarmament should be started today, before it is too late, on the condition that the militarization of space is prevented, and that mankind should be rid of these weapons by the end of the current millennium. The two programs -- the U.S. "star wars" and the Soviet "star peace" -- are thus the exact opposites.

RYZHKOV ADDRESSES WORLD ECONOMIC CONFERENCE 5 FEB

LD060317 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1845 GMT 5 Feb 86

["Text" of 5 Feb address by Council of Ministers Chairman Nikolay Ryzhkov to the World Economic Conference in Davos, Switzerland, followed by his responses to questions -- recorded]

[Text] Mr President, Mr Chairman, esteemed symposium participants: The organizers of the world economic forum have shown interest in the subject of the Soviet leadership's attitude to the development of international economic cooperation. It appears that this choice is connected one way or another with the striving of Western business circles to expand trade and economic relations with the Soviet Union. On our part we share this striving.

As you know, the Soviet Union is a country with a plan [as heard] economy. The following should be borne in mind to understand correctly the essence of our plans in the field of external economic ties at the present stage. The acceleration of the country's social and economic development has now been made the top priority of the Soviet Union's economic strategy and this acceleration should be ensured on a qualitatively new basis -- on the basis of increasing the efficiency of production and on the basis of scientific and technological progress. This, accordingly, will make itself felt on the content of our external economic ties as well.

Questions of these ties will hold a proper place during the study of the plans of the country's social and economic development at the forthcoming 27th CPSU Congress. Such extremely important documents for the life of the country and its future are going to be submitted for discussion by the congress as the drafts of the new edition of the CPSU Program and the Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR in 1986-1990 and in the period to the year 2000. Much attention is being given in them to the further expansion of trade, economic, scientific and technical ties with other countries.

The prospects of cooperation with socialist countries have already been mostly defined. As in the past, our relations with them will be constructed on a long-term, plan basis. The process of deepening contacts based upon integration will be accelerated and we will jointly carry out a number of major economic projects. We are beginning the fulfillment of the comprehensive program for scientific and technological progress of CEMA member countries. It encompasses the period to the year 2000.

Along with this, active cooperation with developing countries and the expansion of trade and economic relations with Western states, at least with those of them that are prepared for such cooperation on an equal and mutually advantageous basis, remains an aim of the Soviet foreign economic strategy in the forthcoming period.

Such, in brief, is the general picture.

I think, however, that it would be more correct to expound on the themes of interest to us by starting not with economic but with political issues. Not only because the atmosphere of tension that has appeared in the world creates unfavorable conditions for all international intercourse, including for business cooperation. No matter how important this is, today the attention of the whole world is riveted to the fate of far more important values. The world has closely approached the line that one should not cross because this would bring with it the danger of human civilization's destruction.

A quarter of a century ago man made his first ever appearance in outer space. Now we have started the mastering of space and pin great hopes on this. But are all the tremendous efforts in this field, the brilliant fruit of reason and, finally, the losses that have been sustained designed to serve the purpose of threatening each other with incinerating star weapons? Is it not better to give thought to ways of how the development of outer space could be made a field of international cooperation?

The Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in Geneva opened the road to a more constructive East-West dialogue. But neither can one fail to say that in this evaluation there is more hope than statement [as heard] of what has already been accomplished.

In order to implement the favorable possibilities created by the meeting in Geneva the Soviet Union proposed a concrete and detailed program of full nuclear disarmament. It was outlined in the 15 January statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

This program takes into consideration the proposals of many governments and public forces in the West. Within the framework of the program and along with it the Soviet Union tabled new proposals on medium-range missiles in the European zone, on tactical nuclear arms, conventional arms, chemical weapons, confidence-building measures and effective verification, including on-site inspections. That is why the attitude of the United States and its allies to the Soviet Union's proposals will show whether they are prepared to advance along the road started in Geneva or not.

The approach to questions of international security outlined in the Soviet proposals stems from the Soviet concept of peaceful coexistence. And this concept, as is known, includes extensive economic cooperation between states irrespective of their belonging to this or that social system.

In this connection I will mention yet another new Soviet document - the Memorandum of the Soviet Government on Questions of International Economic Security.

It has a direct bearing on the theme of our discussion. For it is obvious that the striving to utilize the possibilities inherent in the development of East-West economic ties enters into a profound contradiction with all sorts of discriminations, embargoes, trade and credit restrictions that are being extensively practiced today by the governments of the United States and some other Western states. All these are means of waging trade wars.

They disorganize international cooperation and poison the atmosphere.

In practical terms the Cocom [Coordinating Commission on Export Controls] instructions mean that only outdated products and technologies can be sold to socialist countries. But we will never accept such a, so to say, "division of labor". This is absolutely unacceptable in relations between sovereign states. Evidently this does not suit very well Western firms as well because the lost benefits can be very substantial.

It is a possibility that deep inside them some politicians and maybe some representatives of the business community as well combine worship of Mercury, the god of trade, with worship of Mars, the god of war. It seems to some that the arms race is a sort of generator of growth and technological progress. In reality, however, it is such a generator that increasingly exacerbates the numerous economic and social problems of the West itself.

Not to mention the fact that it generates profound mistrust, growing tension in East-West relations and renders futile the search for a solution to the problems of developing countries.

But an alternative exists. This alternative is to stop the arms race and to achieve disarmament, to establish large-scale economic ties between all countries: capitalist, socialist and countries that have embarked on the road of independent development. The policy of peace and detente, the growth of trust between states is conducive to external economic ties while their expansion, in turn, strengthens the material basis of detente.

We proceed from the premise that external economic ties should be advantageous not only to us but also to our partners. A similar approach is expected, naturally, on their part as well. Its essence is that healthy economic ties can be constructed only on principles of full equality, mutual advantage, strict observance of existing accords and non-interference in internal affairs. All this is incompatible with attempts to use economic ties for purposes of applying political pressure on other countries and inflicting any whatsoever damage to them.

As to the specific problems of developing countries their solution could be seriously helped if the vitally important requirements of these countries were taken into account in the course of the present structural reorganization that is being conducted in the Western economy. It can be said that this is impeded by the debt problem. But given a more profound and fair approach to this problem it is possible to create conditions for its gradual solution.

I do not know to what extent I have succeeded, but I tried to present to you the crux of the Soviet approach to the development of international economic relations. Within the framework of this approach we see possibilities for a considerable development of our external economic ties.

It might seem at first glance that these possibilities are not that big. Indeed, in practical terms the Soviet Union is provided with all types of national resources. It holds frist place in the world in the extraction and production of oil, gas, steel, mineral fertilizers and many other products. In the course of the past 10 years our import of machinery and equipment from developed capitalist countries did not exceed 3-4 per cent of the volume of our machine-building industry's output.

Since lately there again is talk in some Western circles about an alleged decline of our export potential, I would like to say the following.

Major changes in the structure of the Soviet economy will be a specificity of the new, 12th 5-Year Plan period. The fixed assets will be modernized and renovated. The withdrawal from operation of obsolete production assets as compared to the previous 5-Year Plan period will be doubled. The development of machine-building will be accelerated. The rates of scientific and technological progress will grow.

All this, along with the utilization of my country's huge scientific, production and intellectual potential, will make it possible to accomplish major qualitative changes in the output of modern industrial products, including those supplied to the foreign market.

So it can be said that the structural policy, inherent in the draft guidelines that will be studied by our party congress, creates additional favorable possibilities for developing Soviet foreign trade.

By the year 2000 we intend to double the country's national income. Our 12th 5-Year Plan period, that has just begun, holds a special place in the attainment of this aim. Very big tasks have been set along all the directions of the country's social and economic development. And, of course, in attaining them we will rely mainly on our own resources. At the same time we do not intend to renounce the utilization of the opportunities of mutually advantageous economic cooperation, first of all in the field of scientific and technological progress.

The pace of the Soviet economy's develcpment, its scale, and our consistent course of developing international economic cooperation allow for the conclusion that the prospects of business cooperation with the Soviet Union during the new 5-Year Plan period can be very promising.

It is said sometimes that the differences in the organization of our countries' economies might limit the possibilities of developing new forms of economic ties and turn out to be a stumbling block. One should not forget, however, that not only the dynamics of economic cooperation but also the experience of business ties with foreign firms shows that one can work with the Soviet Union with confidence and effectively. Besides, much work is now being done in my country to perfect the economic mechanism. Much will be done also in the field of perfecting foreign trade, making it more efficient, imparting to it promptness and flexibility. This, no doubt, will bring with it the appearance of new forms of mutually advantageous cooperation.

Now I am prepared to reply to questions. [applause]

[Gaston Thorn in English fading into superimposed Russian translation] The tasks set by the new 5-year plan provide for a drastic growth of labor productivity. But how do you think it will be achieved? In particular, how will labor and management be stimulated, will there be changes in the system of wages, in setting prices, in the order of decision-making by enterprises concerning cooperation with foreign companies?

[Ryzhkov] As you will realize, as you can obviously guess, this problem is also of great significance to us. In the new 5-year plan period we plan a 4 percent annual average increment in labor productivity. Virtually the entire increase in industrial output will be achieved by higher labor productivity. This is one of the fundamental specifications of the new 5-Year Plan period. In the future, labor productivity rates of growth are to grow still higher.

Now concerning ways of achieving this.

In solving this task we intend to rely first of all on our own production potential. We have drawn up an action program specially directed at the attainment of this aim.

The renovation of the production apparatus on the basis of new equipment and progressive technologies will be the main source of labor productivity growth. The application of electronics, robots, membrane, laser and other newest technologies will be used extensively in the country's economy. The number of workers engaged in manual labor requiring little skills will be reduced over the next 5 years by 5-6 million. They will be switched to jobs requiring greater skills.

The measures to improve the economic mechanism provide for a close interconnection between the economic interests of enterprises and individual workers in rapidly switching to the output of technically advanced products and in raising labor productivity.

We count on a qualitative growth in the performance of the working class and the scientific-technical intelligentsia. They are vigorous promoters of the course of accelerating scientific and technological progress and on this basis of increasing labor productivity, because both workers and specialists know well that in Soviet society, scientific and technological progress does not spell unemployment.

It is intended to do everything necessary for the training of workers and specialists to meet the highest demands made by scientific and technological progress.

At the same time measures are being taken to increase the moral and material interest of workers, engineers and scientists in the efficiency of their work.

We will accomplish all this within the framework of our system of planned management of the national economy. While perfecting the principle of centralism in the management of our economy, we intend at the same time to further expand the economic independence of amalgamations and enterprises. This combination will enable us to make maximum use of the advantages of the socialist economic system.

In the field of international economic ties we will also devote attention to new forms of cooperation. We are opting for the establishment of direct production ties between Soviet enterprises and enterprises in CEMA member states. We also do not rule out the possibility of the establishment of close scientific-technical ties with firms and enterprises in capitalist countries.

[Thorn] Technology transfer will be a key aspect of cooperation with foreign enterprises. What is your reaction to increased restrictions and controls, for instance along the lines of Cocom, and how could the situation be improved?

[Ryzhkov] You have raised a very important question. Speaking of our reaction, it is, as you well realize, very negative. I believe many of those present have a similar reaction. This is natural. As to the other party of your question we believe that we should speak of a mutual exchange of new technologies and other research-intensive products and not of their transfer. The view that the flow of technology is only in one direction, from West to East, and primarily to the Soviet Union, and that without outside technological assistance we would give up the fulfillment of the programs we have outlined is totally groundless.

The business circles in Western countries have had the chance to see for themselves that the Soviet Union has a tremendous scientific-technical and industrial potential. There are quite a number of fields in which the USSR holds advanced positions in the world and in which other countries make extensive use of our technological developments.

The achievements of Soviet scientists and engineers create a good basis for developing mutually advantageous cooperation in many fields. The fusing of our technology with the experience of leading Western firms can lead, in many instances, to the development of technologies and equipment of a fundamentally new type.

Today the exchange of new technologies is becoming one of the main directions in the development of world trade and we are taking this into consideration.

So the question about how to improve the situation is definitely an important one. But this question should not be addressed to us.

It should be put to those political leaders in the United States and some other Western countries who are seeking a further toughening of export controls. The reasons why such restrictions are spreading are not so much in the economic sphere as in the political one.

I have already commented on our attitude to those measures. I can only add that whenever attempts were made by way of discrimination and restrictions to impede for the Soviet Union in its efforts to solve one problem or another, such attempts invariably failed. This is just what happened when the United States used an embargo in an attempt to block the construction of a gas pipeline in the Soviet Union. The result was exactly the opposite. We speeded up the construction and at the same time launched the production of equipment for gas pipelines not only for ourselves but also for deliveries to the foreign market, and we are now altogether in a position where we can deal in this equipment.

As to the Soviet Union, we are doing everything to improve international relations and create conditions for their development. This is served first of all by our political initiatives directed at strengthening trust. This is served also by the practical steps taken by us to establish extensive business contacts with the West.

[Thorn] The invigoration of the economy in the USSR will require the mobilization of big financial resources. Will these resources be obtained by redistributing means between branches of the economy or by attracting means from abroad?

[Ryzhkov] Just as in the past the Soviet Union will continue relying on internal financial sources of growth. Their scope is sufficient to ensure the accelerated social and economic development of the country. In the new 5-year plan period it is intended to increase capital investments in the national economy by about 20 percent as compared to the previous 5-year period.

The economic strategy formulated by our party provides for a substantial internal redistribution in the overall volume of capital investments directed at production aims. Firstly, there will be a considerable rise of the share of funds directed at the retooling of existing enterprises. This will take place in all industries and help raise the efficiency of social production. Secondly, there will be a rise in the share of capital investments to develop machine building and first of all its basic branches.

There will be a substantial growth of investments also in the other branches of the economy that directly influence the acceleration of scientific and technological progress.

At the same time we will not oppose drawing Western firms or credits into the fulfillment of our investment projects. The countries and firms that will be ready to base their economic relations with the USSR on mutual advantage and equality will always find in the Soviet Union a reliable and serious partner in trade and economic cooperation.

[Thorn] What advice would the prime minister give to the chief executive of a foreign enterprise that would like to establish or expand business cooperation with your country in 1986?

[Ryzhkov] I first of all would invite them to come to Moscow, where we could inform them about our system in greater detail, so that these esteemed gentlemen could obtain further proof of our good intentions as far as economic contacts are concerned.

The Soviet market does not make any unusual demands. This can be confirmed by many foreign companies that have been maintaining business ties with Soviet organizations for decades. Just as for any other country, it is important for us that the wares offered to us be of a good quality and that the prices and other terms of contracts be fair. And of course the mutual relations should be proper in everything.

Western firms do not encounter any difficulties in establishing contacts with Soviet organizations and familiarizing themselves with the Soviet market. Those who are interested in this will find it easy to obtain the necessary information at Soviet trade missions. We have them in virtually all the countries of the world.

It would be advisable now to make a closer study of the directions of our development in the 5-Year Plan period that has just begun. This will help you form a correct picture of the Soviet market's requirements.

Another piece of advice would be to pay more attention to questions of the participation of Western firms in the reconstruction and modernization of Soviet enterprises. As I have already said, this is an important direction in the new 5-Year Plan period. Of course, this requires a more thorough discussion of such matters with Soviet partners -- from foreign trade organizations to industrial enterprises. Conditions for this exist.

In my country there is a well-wishing attitude to businessmen who come to us with concrete proposals. For instance, about 500 representatives of U.S. business came to Moscow to attend the latest meeting of the U.S.-Soviet trade and economic council. The minister of industrial reconstruction and foreign trade of France, Madame Cresson, came to us accompanied by a representative group of managers of firms and specialists.

Soviet organizations are prepared to establish new contacts with firms from any country -- both big and small ones.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the participants in the symposium for this meeting and to express my confidence that our economic links will serve the cause of detente, mutual understanding, and international confidence building. Thank you for your attention. I wish you success. [applause]

BILD ON DETAILS OF SHCHARANSKIY-AGENT EXCHANGE

DW051050 Hamburg BILD in German 5 Feb 86 pp 1, 2

[Richard Voelkel report: "Exchange of People; BILD Reveals New Details; DM5 million for Shcharanskiy; Eleven Instead of Eight Eastern Agents"]

[Text] As a surprise for Western negotiators, the Soviets have made additional demands in the negotiations about the exchange of people. As BILD-ZEITUNG learned, Moscow in now demanding "around DM5 million" for Soviet regime critic Shcharanskiy. Besides, Moscow now demands that the West release a total of 11 high-ranking Eastern agents. So far the release of 8 top agents has been demanded. In return, the Soviets are prepared to release Boris Kalandaryov, the Jewish critic of the regime from Leningrad.

A high-ranking security official said yesterday to BILD:

"The exchange action planned for next week has thus developed into a risky poker game. However, we are still optimistic that a positive solution will be achieved in the end. Now the final exchange list must be stipulated in tough negotiations."

As BILD has further learned, Jewish businessmen in the United States and the diamond center, Antwerp, are prepared to put of the money for Schcharanskiy.

For the exit of Nobel Peace Prize winner Sakharov to the West, Moscow has been offered an amount running into eight figures -- the Kremlin has thus far said "nyet".

According to BILD information, the "GDR" now wants, in the course of the exchange, to get Margarethe Hoeke from Bonn, the top agent in the federal presidential office. Bonn rejects that strictly on procedural grounds. (No complaint has yet been filed against Mrs Hoeke for treason).

UN DEBATES ISRAELI INTERCEPTION OF LIBYAN PLANE

LD060829 Moscow TASS in English 0815 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 6 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vyacheslav Chernyshev reports:

The Security Council is now discussing a draft resolution condemning Israel for an act of air piracy in international air space against a Libyan civilian aircraft. Israel's interception, jeopardizing international peace and security, the draft resolution says, is a serious violation of the principles of international law and of the relevant provisions of the international conventions on civil aviation and jeopardizes the safety of international air travel.

Speakers in the debate blame Tel Aviv's overseas protectors and inspirers for such gangsterism of Israel violating all standards of civilized conduct. The interception is a classical example of the policy of state terrorism, [said] Al-Zarruq Rajab Libya's representative at the United Nations, an act of air piracy directly supported by the USA. The ships of the Sixth American Fleet, equipped with most up-to-date electronic observation facilities, have been regularly supplying the Israelis with information on air traffic in the area, thus enabling them to intercept any airlines.

The United States which itself recently intercepted an Egyptian civil aircraft, is a full partner of Israel in its terrorist actions, he stressed.

Representatives of Arab states demand that the Security Council take, at long last, resolute steps to curb the overweening aggressor. Moulay Mahdi Alaoui, Morocco's permanent representative at the UNO, explained the situation by the fact that Israel, hoping that its actions will go unpunished, continues extending the scope of violence and aggression, which are now being spread to all Arab states and jeopardize the entire international community.

UN DISCUSSES ISRAELI HUMAN RIGHTS 'VIOLATIONS'

LD060541 Moscow TASS in English 0012 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Geneva, February 5 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladislav Shishlo reports:

The participants in the current 42nd session of the U.N. Human Rights Commission in the Palace of Nations here began discussing an item on violations of human rights in the Israel-occupied Arab territories, including Palestine.

Representatives of Syria, the Palestine Liberation Organization, the USSR, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, the PRC, Algeria, etc. strongly condemned Israel for the continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories and for the terror and violence being practised there. They drew the attention of the participants in the session that the Israeli authorities continue flagrantly to trample on the rights and national dignity of the population of the Israel-occupied Arab lands from year to year without reckoning either with U.N. resolutions or with the world public opinion.

Nabil Ramlavi [spelling as received], permanent observer of the Palestine Liberation Organization, strongly condemned Israel's colonialist and expansionist policy and the authorities' flagrant violations of human rights. Responsibility for the crimes being committed by Tel Aviv is also fully shared by those who give aid and support to it, he stressed.

Qian Jiadong [spelling as received], representative of the PRC, called on the Human Rights Commission to take at last effective measures which would make Israel withdraw from the captured Arab territories, which would promote the ensurance of the right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination and to the establishment of a state of their own.

The continued aggression and occupation of other people's lands by Israel constitute the most flagrant violation of the principles of international law. This is incompatible with the notion of human rights and freedoms, D. Bykov, representative of the USSR, said in his speech. The Soviet Union's stand with regard to a settlement of the situation in the Middle East, including that in the field of human rights, is well known, he stressed. It was once again set out by Eduard Shevardnadze, minister of foreign affairs of the USSR, in his speech at the latest session of the U.N. General Assembly. A machinery for talks on such a settlement was also suggested long ago: An international conference on the Middle East under U.N. aegis with the participation of all the sides concerned, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation as well as a number of other states, among them the USSR and the USA.

MELNIKOV COMMENTS ON U.S. STANCE IN UN COMMITTEE

PM311107 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Igor Melnikov "Commentator's Column": "Against the Cult of Violence"]

[Excerpts] A session of the UN Special Committee for enhancing the effectiveness of the principle of nonuse of force in international relations is under way in New York.

Displaying good will and adhering to a principled and simultaneously flexible stance, at the current session of the UN Special Committee the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries called for speeding up the drafting and adoption of the universal treaty [on the nonuse of force in international relations], and, as an interim step, for a declaration on the nonuse of force in international relations.

What is needed for the world community to adopt documents serving the cause of peace and universal security? Political will, of course. Discussions at the Special Committee session showed that many Western countries, headed by the United States, are experiencing a shortage of precisely such will.

Avoidance of discussions of the question's essence, "failure to understand" the role of the declaration as an interim stage along the way to the elaboration of a universal treaty on the nonuse of force, attempts to thwart the implementation of the specific and clear-cut mandate given to the Special Committee by the 40th UN General Assembly session -- all these were displayed during the discussion.

Such a "policy" is obvious, it cannot be camouflaged beneath peace-loving phraseology. Something else is also obvious, however: the peoples of the world, including in the United States and the other NATO countries, need the elevation of the principle of nonuse of force to the status of a law of international relations. The cult of force and violence must be excluded for all time from the life of mankind.

SELSKAYA ZHIZN VIEWS ROLE OF NONALIGNED MOVEMENT

PM301557 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 30 Jan 86 p 3

[Article by B. Tuzmukhamedov, candidate of juridical sciences: "Factor of Stability and Security; Peace for the Present and Future Generations"]

[Excerpts] A very important foreign policy program document -- the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee containing a package of major peace-loving proposals -- notes that our country's actions in the international arena comply with the efforts of the members of the Nonaligned Movement and it rates highly their constructive initiatives.

The movement occupies explicit positions on all the main problems of the present day and is seeking to influence their solution. It comes out with foreign policy initiatives aimed at safeguarding peace, security, and disarmament.

The enemies of the Nonaligned Movement and their stooges within the movement are making its anti-imperialism and antimilitarism the target of their subversive actions. Using various means -- political, economic, and military -- they are trying to push the movement from its democratic positions, weaken the influence of progressive circles in it, hamper cooperation between the nonaligned and socialist countries, and split the movement from within by fuelling hatred between the member countries. Attempts are being made to impose the phony concepts of "equidistance" from the two opposing world systems, of the "equal responsibility of the superpowers" for the difficulties on the path of the developing and liberated countries. That is why the movement is faced with the task of repelling these actions, which it can only do by retaining its loyalty to fundamental principles, strengthening the unity of its ranks, displaying high political vigilance, and collaborating with other anti-imperialist and peace-loving forces.

In the current complex international situation, the Nonaligned Movement can play a considerable role in preventing world war, eliminating seats of tension, halting and reversing the arms race, and ensuring the progress of all countries and peoples. Here, too, the nonaligned countries can always count on the consistent support of the Soviet Union and the socialist community states. Many years of experience attest to the objective coincidence or proximity of the positions of the nonaligned and socialist countries on the main problems of the present day and in their struggle against imperialism and for peace and social progress.

REAGAN'S STATE OF THE UNION ADDRESS CRITICIZED

'Basically Rhetorical'

PM051858 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent V. Gan dispatch: "Same Old Story"]

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb -- U.S. President R. Reagan delivered the traditional "State of the Union" address at a joint sitting of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the U.S. Congress.

According to many observers, the presidential address was basically rhetorical, often frankly demagogic, and did not contain any new initiatives. To the disappointment of broad circles of the U.S. public, the head of executive power in the United States essentially preferred not to touch upon the most acute problems of domestic and foreign policy.

Instead, he tried -- despite actual reality -- to paint an optimistic picture of a United States which "grows stronger day by day." Reagan was unstintingly eloquent in depicting the "successes" supposedly achieved during the years in which his administration has been in power. "Freedom is on the march today. The United States is the economic miracle, the model to which the world once again turns," he claimed. The White House chief did not, of course, mention that "freedom" Washington-style means sorrow and suffering for millions of people both in the United States and beyond its borders.

Under the pressure of objective facts, however, the President was nevertheless forced to admit that, in the final analysis, matters are far from smooth. This applies primarily to the federal budget system which, in his words, "has broken down and does not function." Bearing in mind the unprecedented federal budget deficit, currently standing at some $?00 billion, R. Reagan deemed it possible to praise the plan, proposed by legislators P. Gramm and W. Rudman, to reduce the deficit, which envisages further cuts in social programs.

This course of administration, aimed at further flouting Americans' rights and interests, stood out particularly graphically in light of the President's request to Congress to increase the Pentagon's appropriations once more. According to THE WASHINGTON POST, it is envisaged to appropriate 8.2 percent more funds for the military in the next fiscal year than in the current year. In an attempt to justify the unjustifiable, the President repeated the fabrications about some "Soviet threat" and "Soviet pursuit of dominance."

The White House has again displayed an abundant desire to distort the objectives and nature of the Soviet peace policy and to discredit the USSR's struggle to deliver mankind -- not in words, but in deeds -- from the fear of nuclear annihilation. This is precisely why Reagan kept absolutely silent in his message about the Soviet Union's proposal aimed at the complete liquidation of nuclear weapons by the year 2000. As a matter of fact, this point was noted by all leading U.S. newspapers which recalled that it was Reagan who even expressed "gratitude" to Moscow for the all-embracing Soviet program immediately after it was put forward. It is evident, however, that after the initial reaction the instinct of primitive anti-Sovietism, which has been the administration's dismal and lasting hallmark, evidently got to work. Following the weeks of procrastination over an official reply to the USSR's step, one of the administration's high-ranking officers declared on the eve of the President's speech that the Soviet proposals are, supposedly, "an unsuitable response" to "the U.S. plan for reduction of nuclear arsenals."

Only a blind person would fail to perceive the double game here.

Bombastically proclaiming the "agenda for the future," the "agenda for a safer world," the President spoke positively about the Soviet-U.S. meeting in Geneva and expressed a hope for "more stable relations" between the two countries. "No other people on earth hates war and loves peace more than the Americans," he declared. And he immediately launched into deliberations that the attainment of the goals of curbing the arms race and reducing arms is apparently held back by the Soviet Union, while the United States is thinking of and pursuing nothing but this....

An obvious lie, and it is hardly worth proving this. After all, in the very same message, Reagan urges the implementation of the "star wars" program....

Actually, this approach, which proclaims the U.S. claims to global superiority and to the role of supreme arbiter of the fate of countries and peoples, ran clearly through the entire text of his message. Especially, for example, in the President's words that the United States will continue to render comprehensive support to "freedom fighters" in Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, and Nicaragua!

This is why the sharp criticism which has already been heard in connection with the President's message appears fully justified. It was described as "disappointing" by House of Representatives Speaker T. O'Neill. It was described as "empty rhetoric" by Democratic Party spokesmen in their collective reply to the President, broadcast on U.S. television.

No Comment on Arms Proposal

LD052231 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Political observer Aleksandr Zholkver commentary]

[Text] President Reagan's message is noteworthy, in my view, not only for what is in it, but also, to no less degree, for what is not in it. Here, however paradoxically, there is literally no mention of the large-scale proposals on problems of disarmament, put forward in the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. As is known, since the publication of this very important document, which, by the way, has been distributed as official UN material, approximately 1 month has already passed. During that time many state and public figures of a number of countries, including ones belonging to NATO, have spoken out in support of the new, peace-loving proposals of the Soviet Union. The significance of the Soviet proposals, primarily on the elimination of nuclear weapons and, as a first step, on an immediate end to testing of nuclear weapons, has been noted at important international forums, in particular at the sessions of the Disarmament Conference, which have resumed in Geneva.

And what about Washington? At first they spoke here of the need to study the Soviet proposals. But has such a study not been delayed too long, if it was not mentioned even in the President's message to the Congress? After all, time will not wait. Many in the United States itself are pointing this out, especially since the Challenger catastrophe, which demonstrated particularly graphically the danger of any kind of power doctrines, both on earth and in space. But the fact of the matter is evidently that the highest echelons of power in the United States by no means want to part with such doctrines. For this presidential message to the Congress also clearly lays stakes on a certain power of the United States from its global interests on earth affecting, in particular, the sovereign states of Afghanistan and Angola, Cambodia and Nicaragua, to no less global interests in space, including not only the dash to the stars, but "star wars" as well.

However, in our nuclear missile age, banking on power is an extremely dangerous occupation.

It would seem that it has long been time to abandon the thinking of the Stone Age, when the main concern was to provide onself with the biggest possible club and heaviest possible stone. The responsibility before the present and coming generations is now too great. I sought in vain for an expression of such a sense of responsibility in the message of the U.S. President.

Listeners 'Disappointed'

LD051926 Moscow TASS in English 1902 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, February 5 TASS -- President Ronald Reagan has delivered a traditional address on the State of the Union at a joint meeting of the both houses of Congress. The message which was to prepare ground for submitting a draft federal budget for next financial year to Congress was of a pronounced publicity nature. It has disappointed those who expected that the President would analyse and suggest ways to solve the urgent problems which the United States encounters both inside the country and in the international arena.

The results of a public opinion poll taken by the ABC TV network and circulated the day before indicated that a considerable numer of Americans regard the threat of a nuclear war, U.S. economic troubles, poverty and unemployment as the major problems of our times. It is obvious that, taking those sentiments into account, the head of the White House said, in particular, that his "deepest longing for the future" is "to leave our children a land that is free and just in a world at peace". "It is my hope", he stated, "that our fireside summit in Geneva and Mr. Gorbachev's upcoming visit to America can lead to a more stable relationship".

At the same time Reagan not only failed to give a reply to the latest major Soviet initiatives which are aimed at reducing and then at completely eliminating nuclear arms, and at preventing militarisation of outer space, but did not say a word about them altogether.

The Washington administration's approach to the problems of war and peace has been defined in the State of the Union message by an old but by no means less dangerous formula: America should arm itself and pursue the position-of-strength policy. For lack of other arguments in favour of spending huge funds for non-productive and dangerous military purposes, Reagan again turned to the myth about a "Soviet threat". He asserted that the threat from Soviet forces, conventional and strategic, and from the Soviet drive for domination remains great.

President Reagan advocated a build-up of U.S. military might, an intensification of the arms race, including its spreading over to outer space through the so-called "Strategic Defence Initiative" (SDI) which envisages the deployment of strike weapons in outer space and is aimed at creating a first-nuclear-strike capability. "The same technology transforming our lives can solve the greatest problem of the 20th century", the President assured. "A security shield can one day render nuclear weapons obsolete and free mankind from the prison of nuclear terror". How distant such kind of promises are from actuality is evidenced, in particular, by the fact that the Pentagon in its request for the 1987 financial year, along with the speeding up of the SDI, envisages a sharp increase, not a cutdown, in appropriations for the production of the newest types of offensive strategic arms.

Moreover, Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger directly points out in the annual report to the Congress that the SDI should become one of the pillars of the American "nuclear factor". This means that the Washington strategists regard the SDI programme as a component of the efforts being made by the United States to break the existing strategic balance for the purpose of gaining military superiority.

The State of the Union message again proclaimed commitment to a Washington-style solution to regional conflicts.

Reagan promised all-round aid and support to the counter-revolutionary forces around the world, threatening those countries and governments whose foreign and domestic policies do not suit the White House for this or that reason. In so doing he mentioned Afghanistan, Angola, Kampuchea, and Nicaragua.

Reagan's pronouncements on U.S. internal political problems are likewise distant from reality. He mentioned in brief some ulcers which erode the fabric of U.S. present-day society -- the reign of crime, moral and ethical dissoluteness, the break-up of families, drug addiction, unemployment, hunger and poverty. At that the enumeration of the problems virtually ended.

Moreover, it follows from the President's pronouncements that the White House policy in the social field will lead to a still greater aggravation of the situation in those fields. Thus, Reagan said that by year-end he would get a report analyzing the surviving social programs and giving recommendations on how to slash them further. He also demanded that the Congress give him a line-item veto, i.e. giving him authority to selectively cut expenditure items which the White House considers unacceptable out of Congress-approved bills.

Experience shows that the administation, as a rule, regards expenditures for social needs as such items.

This is the grim reality of capitalism which the head of the administration tried to present as "the model to which the world once again turns". A genuine evaluation of this "model" is contained in a message made public by Mitch Snyder, leader of the "Community for Creative Non-Violence" organisation. His message was timed for the President's State of the Union address. The message, which was read out on the steps of a doss-house located at a kilometre's distance away from the Capitol where Reagan was delivering his address, has it that millions of men, women and children in America are dragging out a miserable existence. They lack food and have no roof over their heads. Unemployment is rampant in the country (according to the data of trade unions, there are about 15 million jobless in the United States).

The President of the United States took a clear-cut class-motivated stand in another important matter which is now under discussion in the United States -- a tax reform. He resolutely declared in favor of such a reform which would result in new benefits and boons for big capitalists and the rich, which is fraught with an additional burden for the working people and the other destitute.

Moving on to external economic problems, Reagan promised in words to work with redoubled efforts "for freer and fairer trade", emphasizing that restrictions on trade are barriers to economic growth. "We have already taken actions to counter unfair trading practices and to pry open closed foreign markets. We will continue to do so", he maintained.

However, it is well known that it is precisely the U.S. Administration that has made every kind of bans, restrictions on trade, boycotts and embargoes an almost every-day and ordinary instrument of state policy. Washington maintains the ban on trade with Cuba and with other socialist countries, has imposed an embargo on trade with Nicaragua, and recently applied large-scale trade-and-economic sanctions against Libya, the sanctions which are tantamount to the declaration of a trade war. The present administration has sharply limited trade with the Soviet Union, is busy fanning up spy scare, and takes legal action against U.S. companies which maintain business contacts with the USSR and with other socialist countries.

Washington's calls for the freedom of trade, just as its assurances as to a striving for peace will be regarded with trust only if the words are backed up by concrete tangible deeds.

The best way to prove that in practice is constructively to reply to the latest Soviet peace initiatives which envisage reduction and ultimately the elimination of all nuclear arms by the year 2000 with a non-militarized outer space. The realization of this historic initiative would be the best guarantee of a peaceful future for the present and future generations.

BOGACHEV VIEWS U.S. DRAFT MILITARY BUDGET

LD051525 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1428 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 Feb (TASS) -- TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev writes:

In his address at a Washington press conference marking the publication of the U.S. draft military budget for the financial year 1986, Caspar Weinberger, the defense secretary, asserted that allegedly the only way to hold talks with the Soviet Union on arms reduction is for the United States to increase its production of armaments.

Ignoring U.S. obligations, including those adopted in the joint Soviet-U.S. statement of 8 January 1985, the Pentagon chief has demanded the allocation of extra funds for the deployment of these very weapons systems whose reduction should be the final aim of the Geneva talks between the Soviet Union and the United States. So Weinberger insisted on building 100 new MX MIRV intercontinental ballistic missiles instead of the 50 permitted by Congress and on financing the construction of another "Trident" submarine with 24 missiles carrying 192 individually targeted nuclear warheads.

The deployment of these nuclear weapons, along with everything else, will result in the United States exceeding the limit for strategic delivery vehicles with separately targeted warheads which was laid down by the SALT II treaty. Thus, Weinberger has graphically demonstrated yet again what the recent White House statements on U.S. willingness to observe the provisions of this Soviet-U.S. agreement are worth.

The draft of the new U.S. budget envisions allocations for the siting of additional cruise missiles in Western Europe. The medium-range nuclear missiles of both sides are also the subject of the Geneva talks. There is every reason to consider the proposed inclusion in the U.S. military budget of allocations for the siting of additional cruise missiles as an obstructionist reaction by Washington to the Soviet proposal to eliminate Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in the European theater as the first step on the way to freeing the European Continent of nuclear weapons.

While cutting virtually all civilian and social programs, the U.S. Administration intends significantly to increase in the 1987 fiscal year its expenditure on preparations for "star wars". The U.S. press is paying attention to the fact that Washington has been forced to resort to deceiving U.S. public opinion in the conditions of the huge U.S. budget deficit by lowering the true growth in U.S. military expenditure through juggling and manipulations.

An initial familiarization with the U.S. draft military budget leads one to think that present U.S. Administration has taken a course toward an unrestrained increase in the arms race in the last 2 years of its term in power in order to render it irreversible and make it impossible for its successors to adopt any measures to reduce the level of military confrontation by means of accords and agreements.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY TERMED 'BRAZEN INTERFERENCE'

LD052340 Moscow TASS in English 2323 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 5 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Askold Biryukov writes:

Washington continues resorting to actions leading to a dangerous heightening of tension and critical aggravation of conflicts in various areas of the world. Another act of piracy has just been committed in the Middle East. With the assistance of U.S. forces that have got entrenched in the area, Israeli warplanes intercepted a plane of the Libyan airlines and forced it to land at a military base in Israel. This action in which the life of passengers and crew members was jeopardized has evoked an immediate demarche from Syria which demanded the convocation of the United Nations Security Council. Washington continues a hostile campaign and armed provocations against the Libyan Government which it proclaimed with imperial arrogance to be a regime standing outside the law. The Washington ultras insist on conducting the same course with regard to Syria.

Washington's attempts to "administer justice" to peoples who do not wish to obey it apply not only to the Middle East but also to all parts of the world: Africa, Asia, Latin America. Viewing regional conflicts through the prism of confrontation with the Soviet Union, the U.S. Administration stubbornly disregards the realities of the world of today, refuses to take into consideration deep social and economic precesses and other inner causes underlying them. And so whole states are outlawed, lawful rights are denied to peoples, while handfuls of inveterate cut-throats who have been thrown out of their native countries by peoples are proclaimed to be the White House's best friends. For instance, the Somoza "contras" are likened to America's "founding fathers". Ringleader of the terroristic gang UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] Savimbi is described as a "charismatic anti-communist" and "freedom fighter".

Pol Pot men, the murderers who were earlier called in the USA the most vicious violators of human rights have now been renamed in Washington as "freedom fighters". And, certainly, almost the top place in that motley society of "freedom fighters" has been assigned to Afghan counterrevolutionaries who are used for waging the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

"We are on your side", representatives of the administration say to those terrorists, and dozens and hundreds of millions of dollars from the U.S. taxpayers' pockets are squandered on the instigation of undeclared wars and conflicts, on conducting the policy of state terrorism. And to prevent the taxpayer's discontent they are offered all sort of "doctrines" and "concepts" of "neoglobalism", for instance, in an effort to convince them that Washington's arbitrariness on a global scale is a sacred undertaking.

The latest address by the President of the USA has become an example of the tactic of smokescreen, In his State of the Union Address that he just delivered in the Congress, President Reagan said literally the following: "We can enlarge the family of free nations if we will defend the inalienable right of all God's children to follow their dreams... America will support with moral and material assistance your ('freedom fighters') right not just to fight and die for freedom, but to fight and win freedom -- in Afghanistan, Angola, Cambodia, and Nicaragua".

Assessing this policy of the White House Robert Manning noted in the U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT that Reagan's doctrine has the aim of regaining the positions lost and widening the U.S. influence in the Third World. And the WASHINGTON TIMES newspaper close to the administration noted, on its part, that the history with Grenada should become a rule.

What is this if not the policy of social revenge and export of counterrevolution which is covered up by the administration's verbiage about its "good intentions"? But high-sounding rhetoric cannot cover up the bleak facts and they attest irrefutably to the intention of the U.S. ruling circles to engage in most brazen interference in the affairs of sovereign states.

KENNEDY MEETS WITH SOVIET OFFICIALS IN MOSCOW

Soviet Parliamentary Group

LD051447 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, February 5 TASS -- A meeting with U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy has taken place at the Committee of the Soviet Parliamentary Group today.

It was stressed in the conversation which took place that ties and contacts between the parliaments of the two countries had become more intensive in the recent period. This contributes to better mutual understanding, to narrowing differences of opinion on various questions of our time and to strengthening state-to-state relations.

It was noted that cooperation should grow in the interests of peace, detente and international security. The Soviet Union is doing everything possible to avert the threat of nuclear catastrophe. This is illustrated by the peace initiatives of the Soviet State. This cause is also promoted by a program for the complete and universal elimination of nuclear weapons, formulated in detail by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in his statement. The United States' agreement to the Soviet proposals could make it possible to prevent the spread of the arms race into space and to build trust between countries and peoples. The ending of nuclear weapon tests constitutes an important step towards the limitation of the arms race. The Soviet Union extended to March 31 the unilateral moratorium on such tests, announced by it last August, and called upon the USA to follow its example.

Edward Kennedy expressed his thanks for the opportunity to visit the Soviet Union and to hold conversations. He stressed the importance of the further extension of the dialogue and, in view of the interests of both countries, of a search for ways to end the arms race. The senator expressed a positive view of the latest Soviet proposals, inter alia, those on arms control, and spoke in favour of an early search by the two countries of accords on the reduction and elimination of nuclear weapons.

Deputy chairmen of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR, Avgust Voss, chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Vadim Zagladin, a deputy to the USSR Supreme Soviet, took part in the conversation.

A luncheon was given in honour of the senator on behalf of the Committee of the Parliamentary Group of the USSR.

Shevardnadze Receives Kennedy

LD051934 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1828 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 Feb (TASS) -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign affairs minister today received an outstanding U.S. political figure, Senator Edward Kennedy, who is visiting Moscow.

The present state of and prospects for Soviet-U.S. relations in light of accords reached at the meeting between the Soviet and U.S. leaders in Geneva were discussed in general terms.

Eduard Shevardnadze drew the senator's attention to the USSR's historically significant initiative -- a program for a total and universal elimination of nuclear weapons, given a ban on space strike weapons, set forth in CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev's statement of 15 January.

Soviet-U.S. cooperation in the implementation of this bold and carefully elaborated plan would be conducive not only to a decisive breakthrough in mankind's struggle against a nuclear threat, but also to a radical improvement in relations between our two countries.

The new Soviet initiatives, reinforced by such a major unilateral step as the extension of the nuclear tests moratorium, create the necessary preconditions for advancing toward the objective of eliminating nuclear weapons and for reaching accords at the Geneva negotiations on nuclear and space armaments. In connection with this it is essential for the U.S. side, including in the U.S. Congress, to manifest a responsible and constructive approach, so that the opportunity which has appeared for the cause of peace is not missed.

Edward Kennedy spoke in favor of progress in the cause of a practical limitation of armaments and for the normalisation and progressive development of Soviet-U.S. relations in general.

U.S. DEFENSE OFFICIAL SECRETLY VISITS PRC

LD051500 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1032 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Washington, 5 Feb (TASS) -- Reports have appeared in the U.S. press saying that J. Kelly, U.S. deputy assistant for defense (East Asia and Pacific Ocean) paid a secret visit to Beijing in January. This visit was connected with the deal planned by Beijing and Washington to supply China with U.S. navigational equipment for 50 F-8 interceptor aircraft.

It is said here that this deal amounts to over $500 million. It is asserted that as a result of Kelly's trip this was agreed with the Chinese side and that in the very near future the U.S. Administration will submit the relevant proposal to Congress. It is pointed out that to "appease Taiwan" an attempt is being made to balance the accord on the equipment sale with a further supply of arms and in particular, highly sensitive equipment to Taiwan.

As yet no report on Kelly's visit has appeared in Beijing.

REASONS BEHIND SHUTTLE ACCIDENT EXPLORED

Pressure on NASA Cited

LD051535 Moscow TASS in English 1407 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 5 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Nikolay Setunskiy.

The U.S. National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has been boosting its programme during the past 8-10 years as if somebody were upon its heels, NASA's former legal adviser George Robinson has stressed in an interview with THE WALL STREET JOURNAL. As a result, the essence of its policy can be reduced to the following: we will fly whatever happens.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL points out that the pressure on NASA with a view to placing in orbit as heavy payload as possible -- commercial or military -- has reduced the possibilities of ensuring flight safety. The following fact is cited: Starting from the first flight by Columbia, up to fifty faults and defects have been found in systems of all shuttle spacecraft.

Before the 10th flight of the Challenger, THE WALL STREET JOURNAL writes, some people expressed concern over its outcome, and warned NASA against the launch that had been repeatedly postponed by that time. However, the newpaper stresses, there were "other" people involved in decision-making. These "others", it points out, quoting Jesse Moore, NASA deputy associate administrator, "recommended" that the launch be held.

Who are these "others"? The AVIATION WEEK & SPACE TECHNOLOGY magazine gives an indirect answer to the question, reporting that the U.S. Air Force is boosting preparations for commissioning a Pentagon launch-site at the Vandenberg Air Base, California, so that the spacecraft Discovery could be launched from there on July 15. There are no official changes in the launch schedule. Preparations will continue, said a base spokesman.

Besides, the loss of the Challenger, the weekly writes quoting Pentagon officials, compelled the Defense Department to review all options for launching top priority payloads into outer space. With this aim in view, a whole series of meetings was held at the Defense Department last week. Intensive use of the shuttle craft by the U.S. Air Force is envisaged by the space strategy in the interests of national security, approved by President Ronald Reagan, the magazine stresses. UPI news agency described American shuttles as "flying bombs."

Cosmonaut's Opinion

LD051623 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] The world public has been shocked by the death of the seven American astronauts and people ask the question: Why did the Challenger explode? Here is an interview with Soviet cosmonaut Georgiy Grechko on the subject:

Perhaps the concrete technical reason for the Challenger's tragedy will eventually be found, but the main reason is already clear, Georgiy Grechko believes. The shuttles have carried out flights announced to the public as secret or partially secret and the Pentagon spurred the intensity of the flights. It is also known that the Challenger's cost amounted to $1.2 billion. To cover the cost such an expensive space shuttle had to fly often. NASA hastened to turn space shuttle missions into commercial flights and set the short-term goal of 24 space flights a year by the end of this decade. But such a program required shorter breaks for repairs and faster preparation for flights. As for defects that cropped up periodically, they were dismissed as insignificant.

When the Challenger's flight was being prepared there was a persistent feeling that United States politicians wanted to use the shuttle program for propaganda purposes, and this led to the death of Mrs Christa McAuliffe, a teacher and winner of the contest "teacher in space". It is clear that cosmonautics should for the time being be the domain of professionals and specialists and to introduce any element of showmanship into this serious undertaking is inadmissible, Georgiy Grechko believes.

In Grechko's opinion the Challenger's tragedy will compel many people to give a fresh look to the so-called SDI program. The Challenger's computer's did not prevent the catastrophe and seven people died. An error made by the SDI computers could lead to the destruction of all civilization. That's what the militarization of space and the development of strike space weapons is fraught with.

SOVIET MISSILE DEPLOYED ON JAPAN-CLAIMED ISLAND

HK051305 Hong Kong AFP in English 1246 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, Feb 5 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union has deployed SSC-1 ground-launched anti-ship missiles on a Soviet island claimed by Japan, a newspaper reported here today. The SANKEI SHIMBUN quoted international military souces as having said the Soviet Union had begun the deployment on Etorofu, to the north of the Japanese Archipelago, soon after Tokyo and Moscow had agreed in September last year that the Soviet Foreign Minister should visit Japan. Etorofu is one of four Soviet-occupied islands claimed by Japan.

The newspaper said SSC-1 missiles, developed in early 1960's, had an estimated range of 450 kilometers (280 miles). It said their deployment on the island was apparently aimed at maintaining Soviet control over the Sea of Okhotsk in case of emergency. The newspaper's sources said all sea straits linking the North Pacific and the Sea of Okhotsk were within the range of the missiles on Etorofu Island.

Following the September agreement, Eduard Shevardnadze last month became the first Soviet Foreign Minister to visit Japan in 10 years.

JAPANESE SOCIALISTS PROTEST MILITARY ROLE

LD030737 Moscow TASS in English 0714 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Text] Tokyo, February 3 TASS -- Washington's nuclear strategy which assigns Japan the part of a U.S. outpost runs counter to the genuine interests of peace and security, Makoto Tanabe, general secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan, stressed in parliament today.

Making an inquiry at the budget commission of the lower house of parliament, he stressed that the Pentagon is preparing for nuclear warfare on foreign territories, above all, of those countries where U.S. bases are situated. These are Western European and Far Eastern countries, including Japan.

In the light of this strategy, the so-called "nuclear umbrella" which the United States has spread to Japan not only fails to ensure its security, but on the contrary, enhances the threat of being involved in a nuclear conflict.

The general secretary of the Central Executive Committee of the Socialist Party of Japan demanded that Tokyo renounce the dangerous role which it has imposed on the country by turning it into Washington's associate. Japan, subjected to two atomic bombings, needs efforts towards disarmament and stronger peace, rather than the American "nuclear umbrella", he said.

BELOSHAPKO ON WITHDRAWAL OF MFN STATUS FROM DRA

LD031415 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 3 Feb 86

[Vladimir Beloshapko commentary]

[Text] The United States has declared that the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan is to be deprived of the status of most favored nation. This means, in particular, a sharp increase in customs dues on any Afghan goods which reach the United States. Here is a Mayak commentary; Vladimir Beloshapko is at the microphone:

This measure has a symbolic rather than a practical character because the volume of trade between the United States and Afghanistan is minimal due to the fault of the Americans. Yet, nevertheless, Washington has undertaken this action. The aim is obvious: to emphasize again that the ruling circles in the United States do not intend to reconcile themselves to popular power in the Democratic Republic, that any paltry opportunity will be used to undermine that country's new order, which the United States finds unnacceptable.

Washington is striving to achieve this aim not only and not so much with trade sanctions. A most favorable system has been created for the CIA and other U.S. departments directly occupied in organizing and financing an undeclared war against Afghanistan. Almost $500 million will be received by the Afghan counterrevolution this year from across the ocean; meanwhile, U.S. arms and ammunition for the dushmans, of course, circumvent all customs barriers. Moreover, extreme right circles in the United States take no account whatsoever of the state borders of a sovereign country. Thus, demands were heard at a recent seminar in Washington to organize an air-bridge between the United States and Afghanistan to air lift arms to the bandits directly, so to speak.

Here is another circumstance to which I would like to draw your attention: As is known, the international community, and above all the developing countries, resolutely demand that international trade relations be made free from all examples of diktat and interference, and from sanctions and blackmail of all kinds.

Washington's latest anti-Afghan action, its economic sanctions against Libya, Nicaragua, and other states are evidence that the current administration intends to ignore this demand as before.

BIRYUKOV COMMENTS ON U.S. AID TO AFGHAN REBELS

PM051427 Moscow TRUD in Russian 1 Feb 86 p 3

[TASS political observer A. Biryukov article: "A Course of Expanding Interference"]

[Text] Judging by reports from Washington, increased nervousness has been perceptible in certain circles of the U.S. Congress recently. The subject of their concern is the program of military and other aid from the U.S. Administration to the Afghan dushmans. Despite appropriations, increasing every year, for aid to the Afghan counterrevolution, the dushmans, through whose hands the undeclared war is being waged against the DRA, suffer defeat after defeat. Moreover, in the border regions of Pakistan, which the United States has turned into the chief bridgehead for armed aggression against the DRA, Pashto and Baluchi tribes have risen in the struggle, coming out resolutely against the use of the territory where they live for training counterrevolutionary gangs and sending them into Afghanistan.

A number of members of Congress as well as lobby groups who call for the open granting of military aid are demanding that the administration "improve the effectiveness" and coordination of actions of all departments involved in the undeclared war against the DRA. They call for tighter control of the deliveries of weapons purchased by those departments for the dushmans. Republican Senators M. Wallop and G. Humphry, well known for their hatred of the Afghan revolution, and also the notorious Z. Brzezinski, who did his bit to expand the armed interference in the DRA's affairs, are demanding that the administration appoint a special coordinator of U.S. policy on Afghanistan and increase military aid to the Afghan counterrevolution. Democratic Congressman C. Wilson is trying to get hold of Swiss-made Oerlikon 20-mm antiaircraft guns for the dushmans. Other congressmen think that is not enough, and that the U.S. Redeye missile or the British Blowpipe would be "more effective" in Afghan conditions. Republican Congressman M. DeWine, who recently visited dushman bases in Pakistan on the instructions of the Senate Intelligence Committee, noted that the dushmans "are now suffering very serious losses," and stated frankly: "We must do everything possible to help them, with the exception of sending in American troops."

Direct military interference is called for by extreme right-wing organizations like the Heritage Foundation, whose views are close to those of the administration, "Free the Eagle," and the "Federation for American-Afghan Action." E. Eiva, leader of the latter, formerly an officer in the U.S. special forces, considers all military aid so far granted to the dushmans to be insufficient. "We must create a direct air link to Afghanistan," he proposes, organizing supplies of weapons to the dushmans by air.

The administration is not deaf to all this advice. The President himself declares "U.S. devotion" to the cause of according all-around assistance to the hired bandits who exterminate Afghan civilians. The scale of finance for the intervention against the DRA is snowballing. THE WASHINGTON POST admits that in the spring of last year Congress released $470 million for the current fiscal year alone. Later, the newspaper notes, reports appeared that Congress had approved additional aid to the tune of $300 million over a 2-year period. Washington is not ashamed to admit that armed interference in Afghanistan has become "the CIA's biggest operation." But apart from the CIA, the newspaper notes, such departments as the Pentagon and the Agency for International Development each have a program for increasing military aid.

There is also a coordinator of this aid, that is, of the program for armed interference in the DRA's affairs. He works under the authority of U.S. Assistant Secretary of State R. Murphy. His name is C. Dunbar. The interdepartmental group to coordinate U.S. policy and programs with regard to Afghanistan is chaired by M. Armacost, U.S. under secretary of state for political affairs. Also, with a view to coordination and "more effective aid," visits are made to Pakistan and to the numerous dushman bases located there by congressmen and high-ranking representatives of the administration. The latest was none other than General G.B. Crist, commander of the U.S. Central Command (Centcom).

The other day a correspondent for the U.S. press agency UPI reported from Washington: "The U.S. Administration is prepared to ask Congress for new appropriations for secret aid to Afghan rebel groupings." In authoritative circles, he noted, a figure in excess of $250 million is mentioned. A State Department spokesman who told the correspondent this added hypocritically: "We have not stopped trying to reach a settlement through talks. We simply have not yet found anything new to give hope for progress."

This is how the U.S. action's imaginary "desire" for a political settlement of the situation over Afghanistan looks in practice. As we can see, Washington is concerned not about a settlement which would bring true peace to the region, but about the future exacerbation of the situation and the expansion of the scale of the bloodshed.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA CARRIES SERIES ON SERVICE IN DRA

PM041045 [Editorial Report] Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian in its First Edition on 26, 28, and 29 January publish on page 2 a three-part article by special correspondent Colonel V. Filatov under the rubric "From an Afghan Notebook" entitled "Scale of Thinking." The first part (1,900 words) is subtitled "Experience Does Not Leave for the Reserve" and emphasizes the importance of the Soviet servicemen in the DRA passing on their experience and their knowledge of the terrain, the local population, and the dushman gangs to those who will take their place in the future. It also describes the work of Soviet medics in the DRA and the difficulties involved in getting wounded servicemen to the hospital on time.

The second part (1,900 words) is subtitled "Drawing Fire" and deals with the important and dangerous work of Soviet artillery observers, who take up positions in front of the artillery and help to direct their fire onto dushman emplacements. It notes an instance when an artillery observer found himself so close to some dushmans that he was obliged to call up Soviet fire on himself and was injured.

The third part (2,400 words) is subtitled "Choosing the Angle of Attack" and describes the work of Soviet helicopter crews in combating dushman gangs. The article concludes by emphasizing the importance of cooperation among the different categories of Soviet troops in Afghanistan and pointing out that "The scale of thinking must be not at the level of 'my crew,' 'my team,' or even 'my' own ground forces or air force, but on the scale of all combined-arms combat."

IZVESTIYA ON WORK OF SOVIET MEDICS IN AFGHANISTAN

PM291057 [Editorial Report] Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 24 January in its Morning Edition carries on page 5 a 1,500 word Afghanistan dispatch from own correspondent G. Ustinov under the heading "Surgeon in the Firing Line." Ustinov describes the work of Soviet Army medical personnel in the DRA, recounting an incident when one such unit came under fire in the region of the Qandahar highway and describing their bravery. He also outlines another incident involving helicopter rescue of wounded personnel.

NEPALESE AMBASSADOR ARRIVES IN MOSCOW 30 JAN

PM041047 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] (Bshiveshvar) Prasad Rimal, Nepalese ambassador to the USSR, arrived in Moscow 30 January.

BRIEFS

ECONOMIC COOPERATION WITH INDIA -- New Delhi, January 26 TASS -- A protocol signed here provides for broadening cooperation between the U.S.S.R. and India in non-ferrous metallurgy. Under the document, Soviet specialists will continue assistance in the application of new production processes at the aluminium plant in Korba, which the Soviet Union helped build in India. The protocol also envisages the development of cooperation between Indian companies and Soviet organisations in mastering modern technology of extracting and processing raw material for this industry. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1000 GMT 26 Jan 86 LD]

U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN PHILIPPINES ELECTION CRITICIZED

LD031950 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 3 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Excerpts] This is the Philippines. At first sight, the easy-going working life continues, especially in rural areas, but the quiet is deceptive. For some weeks now Philippine cities and major townships have been in ferment. Presidential elections are approaching on the archipelago. Marcos has been president of the country since 1965. Now opposition leader Corazon Aquino is challenging his positions. She leads the bourgeois party named the United Nationalist Democratic Organization. The struggle between the candidates is a tough one. Mutual accusations are pouring out. Unfortunately verbal quarrels sometimes turn into attacks and clashes between supporters of rival groups. There are casualties in the clashes. Assassinations have been recorded.

In this situation even seasoned experts cannot forecast who will win. And many Philippine people are bewildered. What is particularly worrysome these days is the behavior of the U.S. administration which allegedly in the interests of the populace fears irregularities during the voting and the counting of votes. For this reason Washington is sending to the elections a whole detachment of observers, many of them obviously sent by the CIA. Their suspicious activities have already repeatedly provoked protests among the public.

Americans, of course, are least of all interested in the future of the country which is going through a grave economic crisis. Its foreign debt is $26 billion. Washington does not think of the jobless, the illiterate, the sick, the Philippine people suffering from the high living costs. The United States is mainly fearful for the fate of its two big foreign bases, air and naval. So whoever wins, Washington needs a president who will be obedient, safeguarding U.S. military and economic interests. I think this is an important moment when the United States must respond to the problems of a friend and ally going through a critical period of its history, President Reagan has just announced, concerning the elections. And he hinted that if a man worthy of trust is elected the United States will examine the possibility of considerably expanding the program of economic and military aid to the Philippines for the next 5 years. And this aid program would be adopted over and above the present aid which the United States gives today. Well, judge for yourselves, comrades: what is this, threats, exhortations, advice, wishes?

U.S. 'Interference' Noted

LD051757 Moscow World Service in English 1610 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Report by PRAVDA correspondent Leonid Kuznetsov in Manila]

[Text] And now a dispatch about the coming presidential elections in the Philippines from Leonid Kuznetsov, PRAVDA's correspondent in Manila:

Running for the presidential office is Ferdinand Marcos. He is supported by the New Society Movement which expresses the interests of the commercial and industrial circles and also of the landlords. The candidate for vice president of the party is Arturo Tolentino, former foreign minister. Their rival is the United Nationalist Democratic Organization representing the opposition bourgoisie and land aristocrats. It has denominated for the presidential post Corazon Aquino, the widow of the well-known leader of the bourgeois opposition Benigno Aquino, killed at Manila Airport in August 1983. And claiming the post of vice president from the opposition is Salvador Laurel, a big landord from the Province of Bataanas.

The election platforms of the two rival sides are full of promises. There are promises to improve the economic situation; to combat unemployment, corruption, and poverty; to raise living standards; and strike for national independence. Aquino, however, has gone further than the announced platform. She said if the voters elected her president she will take measures to remove American bases from the territory of the Philippines.

The demand to free the country from American military presence is voiced also by many publications supporting Marcos and his associates. Marcos himself, however, observers say, is very cautious on the matter.

The local press points out that the election campaign is accompanied by increased American interference. The Filippinos were very angry about the decision of the White House to send a group of so-called observers to their country. Besides, close to the shores of the Philippines is the Enterprise aircraft carrier and a number of other warships with Marines on board. Washington says the American warships near the shores of the Philippines have nothing to do with the elections. However, it wasn't at all accidential that a commentator of the ABC television network said that those are the most important elections abroad for the United States in recent years.

'Direct Threat' by U.S.

LD052032 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1545 GMT 5 Feb 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Eduard Mnatsakanov]

[Text] There are presidential elections in the Philippines the day after tomorrow. You can see on your screens one of the last election performances by the rival to Marcos, the incumbent Philippines president, Aquino, who is also making a claim to the post of president of the republic. It is a colorful and picturesque spectacle which has some elements of a carnival, as you can see. But, in the wings, a fierce fight is taking place between the opposed political forces in the country in which the United States is interfering increasingly openly and increasingly impudently. Numerous delegations of so-called U.S. election observers have been setting out from Washington to far-off Manila one after the other. U.S. interference in the internal affairs of the Philippines is not simply economic pressure or political influence. It is also a direct threat of armed intervention.

U.S. OBSERVERS DEPART TO MONITOR PHILIPPINES ELECTION

LD052326 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1600 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] An official delegation of U.S. observers has taken off for the Philippines where it will monitor the course of the presidential elections due to be held on 7 February. Facing each other in the current election campaign are the ruling coalition: the New Society Movement, headed by President Marcos, and the United Nationalists Democratic Organization, led by [Corazon] Aquino. Despite the heat of electoral passions, these parties' economic and political platforms have much in common. For example, both groupings plan to overcome the acute economic crisis by relying on U.S. aid. By exerting political, economic, and military pressure Washington is trying to preserve its economic position in the Philippines and its military bases. U.S. warships are concentrated along the coast.

Observers To 'Exacerbate' Situation

LD060709 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0304 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] An official delegation of U.S. observers has departed to the Philippines, where it will monitor the progress of the presidential elections scheduled for 7 April. Senate Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Lugar who heads the delegation, has said its members are free to subject to criticism violations wherever they find them. In fact, the delegates' tasks, as those of other U.S. representatives on the Phillipines -- including the U.S. Embassy -- are to further exacerbate the situation and to engage in undisguised interference in that developing country's internal affairs.

ACCORD TO INCREASE TRADE SIGNED WITH SRV

PM311203 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 Jan 86 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Cooperation Developing"]

[Text] Talks between Soviet and SRV Government trade delegations ended in Moscow on 23 January and an agreement on trade exchange and payments between the USSR and SRV for 1986-1990 and a protocol to that agreement for 1986 were signed.

When determining the volumes of reciprocal commodity deliveries, the sides proceeded from the accords reached in principle during the coordination of the two countries' state plans for the next 5 years. In accordance with the commitments adopted, commodity exchange will increase by a factor of 1.7 in comparison with 1981-1985. The USSR will continue to supply the SRV with many types of machines, equipment, raw materials, and other goods. Vietnam's export of agricultural produce and light and local industry goods to the Soviet Union is to increase.

The implementation of the documents signed will be an important contribution to the fulfillment of the long-term program for the development of economic, scientific, and technical cooperation between the USSR and SRV. The talks were held in an atmosphere of fraternal friendship and cooperation.

The agreement and protocol were signed by USSR Foreign Trade Minister B.I. Aristov and SRV Foreign Trade Minister Le Khac.

Dinh Nho Liem, SRV ambassador to the USSR, was present during the signing.

LOGINOV RECEIVES SRV FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS

PM031043 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] Soviet-Vietnamese political consultations were held at the USSR Foreign Ministry 23-29 January. Opinions were exchanged on questions concerning the present international situation, including the situation in Southeast Asia. Representatives of the SRV Foreign Ministry were received by USSR Deputy Foreign Minister V.P. Loginov. Dinh Nho Liem, SRV ambassador to the USSR, was present during the conversation.

COMMENTARY HAILS DEVELOPMENT OF RELATION WITH SRV

OW310931 Moscow International Service in Vietnamese 1000 GMT 30 Jan 86

[Text] Dear listeners: On the Soviet-Vietnamese political calendar, 30 January 1950 stands out among other dates, the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. Our station observer writes:

The relations between the revolutionaries and working people of our countries have existed since the 1920's. During this period, Comrade Ho Chi Minh and many other patriots of Vietnam came to the Soviet Union to study communism. The victorious Russian proletariat extended its support to the liberation movement in Vietnam. The Soviet Union became a guiding star and a strategic ally of the Vietnamese revolutionaries.

In 1945 after the defeat of fascist Germany and militarist Japan, a world socialist system was set up, and independent Vietnam took the path of socialist construction. However, the French colonialists sought to prevent the Vietnamese people from taking their chosen path by dispatching a large legion to Indochina. Repelling the enemy's initial attacks, Vietnam's patriotic fighters gained the initiative on all fronts in 1950. At that time, the struggle to win international recognition of Vietnam as a sovereign country, led by the government of President Ho Chi Minh, could not be postponed.

Early in 1950, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam [DRV] declared its readiness to establish diplomatic relations with other countries. Proceeding from proletarian solidarity, the socialist states were the first to respond to this appeal. On 30 January 1950, the USSR minister of foreign affairs sent a message informing the DRV foreign minister of the Soviet Government's decision to establish diplomatic relations with the DRV on the basis that it represented the greatest majority of the people in the country.

The socialist countries' international communist activities in 1950 for the establishment of diplomatic relations with the DRV were highly valued. Comrade Ho Chi Minh stressed that this was the greatest diplomatic victory in Vietnam's history. Thus, in January 1950, the relations of friendship and solidarity between the Soviet and Vietnamese communists and working people took a new step in becoming the relations between the two socialist countries.

Soviet-Vietnamese relations have become a brilliant example of socialist proletarian internationalism over the past 36 years. At the 1954 Geneva conference, the Soviet Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in close coordination with the DRV, contributed to putting an end to the French colonialist war. During the years of the Indochinese peoples' resistance against U.S. imperialism, the Soviet Union, taking the lead in the movement for solidarity with Vietnam, extended great military, economic, and diplomatic assistance to the communists and working people of Vietnam. During the years of struggle against U.S. aggression, the Soviet Union's stand was upheld in Vietnam. Right after the successful Ho Chi Minh campaign, the Vietnamese leaders, in their congratulatory message to their Soviet counterparts, stressed that the Vietnamese people were deeply aware that the success of Vietnam's revolution was inseparable from the great and valuable aid and support of the Soviet Union.

Soviet-Vietnamese relations have developed even more vigorously after the signing of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the two countries in 1978. Our economic, scientific, and technological cooperation has developed over the past 7 years. Our cultural exchange has expanded. Our plitical relations have been particularly consolidated.

The events of January 1986 have also proved the unity of views and objectives of the Soviet Union and Vietnam. In fact, the Vietnamese leaders voiced their resolute support for the Soviet program to completely eliminate all nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of this century. This program was expounded in the statement by Comrade Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. To coordinate the two countries' national economies for the new 5-Year Plan, agreements on economic cooperation and goods exchange during this period were signed.

Our station observer continues:

The 27th CPSU Congress and the 6th CPV Congress will be held in 1986, a special year for the Soviet Union and Vietnam. According to tradition, the participation of our fraternal parties' delegations in such congresses has become an important political event. Comrade Le Duan led the CPV delegation to the 26th CPSU Congress, and Comrade Gorbachev once said: The Soviet people are always united with fraternal Vietnam and will always give Vietnam its support and assistance in all aspects. The communists and working people of Vietnam can firmly believe that socialist construction in Vietnam, a free and independent undertaking of Vietnam, will continue to enjoy our steady support and solidarity.

Our station observer concludes:

The history of relations between the Soviet Union and Vietnam since 30 January 1950 reveals that socialist internationalism, on which these relations are based, constitutes a solid guarantee for their stability and future.

FURTHER ON VISIT BY HUNGARIAN DEFENSE MINISTER

PRAVDA on Talks With Sokolov

PM051918 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Minister's Visit"]

[Text] Colonel General F. Karpati, minister of defense of the Hungarian People's Republic, arrived in Moscow on 5 February on an official friendly visit at the invitation of Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense.

He was met at the airport by S.L. Sokolov and other officials.

Hungarian ambassador to the USSR S. Rajnai was among the welcoming party.

A meeting between S.L. Sokolov and F. Karpati took place on the same day.

Questions of mutual interests were discussed during the conversation, which proceeded in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

The guest visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and laid a wreath. A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin Wall.

Meets With Gromyko

LD051719 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1622 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 Feb (TASS) -- Andrey Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, today in the Kremlin received Colonel General Ferenc Karpati, member of the MSZMP Central Committee and Hungarian People's Republic minister of defense, who is in the USSR on an official friendly visit.

During the conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of cordiality and complete unanimity of views on the questions discussed, Andrey Gromyko recounted how the Soviet people are preparing to greet the 27th CPSU Congress in a fitting manner, with their creative work.

Ferenc Karpati told of the measures being implemented in his country to carry out the decisions of the 13th MSZMP Congress, which mapped out a course toward speeding up socioeconomic development and consolidating the socialist gains of Hungarian society.

It was noted that the talks which took place in September last year in Moscow between Mikhail Gorbachev and Janos Kadar were, and continue to be, of seminal importance to the further heightening of the efficiency of multifaceted cooperation between the Soviet Union and Hungary.

Emphasis was laid on the topicality of the statement in favor of the removal of the nuclear threat and a turn for the better in European and world affairs, adopted at the meeting of the Political Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact member states in Sofia in October 1985.

The complex of initiatives, historic in their significance, set forth in the recent statement by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, attests to the USSR's firm intention of curbing the arms race, barring the way to the militarization of space, and replacing the development of international relations on the path of detente. The Hungarian People's Republic, declared Ferenc Karpati, fully supports these new proposals that correspond with the aspirations not only of the Hungarian and Soviet peoples, but with those of all mankind.

[Moscow Domestic Service in Russian at 1900 GMT on 5 February, reporting on the Gromyko-Karpati meeting, adds "Marshal of the Soviet Union Comrade Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, and Rajnai, Hungary's ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation."]

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS GDR ARMY DELEGATION VISIT

PM041427 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 1 Feb 86 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Visit by GDR National People's Army Political Workers"]

[Text] A delegation of leading political workers of the GDR National People's Army headed by Lieutenant General H. Bruenner, deputy minister of national defense and chief of the GDR National People's Army Main Political Directorate, spent 2 days in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate.

Marshal of the Soviet Union S.L. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, received Lt Gen H. Bruenner on 30 January.

Talks were held with Colonel General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate. Participating in the talks were Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Lieutenant General V.S. Nechayev and Lieutenant General D.A. Volkogonov, deputy chiefs of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and other responsible political workers. There was an exchange of experience on urgent questions of party political work, the further strengthening of cooperation between political organs, and also the organization of socialist competition in the USSR Armed Forces and the GDR National People's Army in honor of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 11th SED Congress. The National People's Army political workers reported on the preparations for the 30th anniversary of the GDR National People's Army.

The delegation visited the Museum of German antifascists in the city of Krasnogorsk.

The visit to the Soviet Union by leading political workers of the GDR National People's Army took place in an atmosphere of sincere friendship and combat cooperation.

The delegation has left for home.

ITALY ORDERS TWO SOVIETS EXPELLED FOR ESPIONAGE

AU051524 Paris AFP in English 1520 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Rome, Feb 5 (AFP) -- Two Soviet citizens charged with spying, including embassy First Secretary Victor Kopytin, have been ordered to leave Italy, informed sources said here today.

Mr. Kopytin and an Aeroflot airline official at Rome airport, Andrey Chelyukhin, were declared personae non gratae, the sources said.

The Foreign Ministry here refused to confirm or deny the report.

An Aeroflot spokesman confirmed that Mr. Chelyukhin, who has been in Rome for four years, would be leaving in the next few days, but said it was because his contract had ended.

Authorities in Moscow and the Soviet Embassy here refused to comment on the expulsions.

Other Soviet sources here also said they knew nothing about the affair. "It is the first I have heard of it," said Eugenio Labenko, the head of TASS news agency in Rome.

The expulsions follow those of four Soviet officials from France also on charges of spying, a decision announced in Paris on Monday. In a tit-for-tat move, Moscow expelled four French diplomats stationed in Moscow.

AFP Cites Soviet Statement

AU051802 Paris AFP in English 1753 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Excerpts] Rome, Feb 5 (AFP) -- Italy has declared two Soviet officials personae non gratae and ordered them to leave the country, the Soviet Embassy said here today in a statement, charging that the expulsions were for "no valid reason".

The Italian Foreign Ministry refused to confirm or deny the expulsions of Soviet Embassy First Secretary Viktor Kopytin, and an Aeroflot official at Rome's Fiumicino airport, Andrey Chelyukhin, who according to informed sources had both been expelled on spying charges.

A reliable source who wished to remain anonymous said that Mr. Kopytin was believed to have already left Italy while Mr. Chelyukhin was packing his bags.

The Soviet Embassy statement did not however say that the two officials had been expelled and also failed to mention that they were accused of spying.

The statement blamed "circles attempting to sabotage Soviet-Italian cooperation" for the expulsions.

Diplomats said here they expected Moscow to retaliate by announcing the expulsions of Italian diplomats.

USSR Expels Two Italians

AU061101 Paris AFP in English 1055 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Rome, Feb 6 (AFP) -- Two Italians, a diplomat and an employee of an Italian company, have been expelled from the Soviet Union following the expulsion of two Soviet officials from here yesterday, Italian diplomatic sources said today.

The two Italian men were not identified.

Italy yesterday expelled Viktor Kopytin, a first secretary at the embassy here, and Andrey Chelyukhin, a manager of the Soviet Aeroflot airline, for alleged espionage.

FURTHER REPORTS ON VISIT BY ITALIAN PARTY LEADER

PRAVDA on Natta Speech

PM311111 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Jan 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report on speech by Alessandro Natta, secretary general of the Italian Communist Party, at 28 January Moscow dinner in his honor: "In Honor of the Italian Communist Party Delegation"]

[Text] Dear Comrade Gorbachev, Dear Comrades:

First of all, I would like to convey to you, and through you to the Soviet Union's Communists and people, cordial and friendly greetings from the Italian Communists, and to express to you ardent gratitude for extending this invitation to me.

Our meeting is taking place at a time in international life which is marked by events that are serious and alarming for the fate of peace, as well as by new hopes.

The recent Geneva summit provided an opportunity to revive the atmosphere of constructive dialogue after many years of acute tension, and also to find a way for specific advancement of the policy of disarmament, detente and cooperation on a worldwide scale.

This way will, of course, be far from easy. It is no simple matter to overcome the complicated obstacles hindering the implementation of a policy of detente. There is, however, no other alternative, and it must be resolutely implemented, because the fate of civilization and all mankind is at stake. We want to recall the persistent and passionate efforts which were made in the spirit of our traditions by Enrico Berlinguer right up to the last days of his life in order to urge all Italian Communists and all democratic and peace-loving forces in our country and all over the world to new and even greater accomplishments for the sake of halting the fatal arms race spiral and embarking on a reduction of the nuclear arms level.

This is why we have repeatedly expressed over the past few months, and express now our lofty assessment of the decisions made by the USSR to introduce a moratorium on nuclear tests and of the important proposals advanced by you, including those made in the last few days, concerning the reduction of strategic arms, the withdrawal of medium-range missiles from Europe, and the affirmation of the prospect that the next millennium will be free of the nightmare of atomic slaughter.

It is wise, therefore, to affirm a policy which also takes into account the needs of the other side, the needs of the other great power -- the United States. Such cooperation once played a decisive role in defeating Nazi fascist barbarism and in saving civilization and democracy.

Italian Communists have raised and still raise the questions of disarmament and peace higher than anything else.

Our party advocates, both in Italy and abroad, a policy of balanced and verifiable disarmament. We are striving to ensure that the Geneva talks adopt real disarmament measures which lead to a substantial reduction of all types of arms on both sides, and particularly to a freezing of medium-range missile installations in Europe, both in the West and in the East, with a view to their further and complete dismantling. An important step would be taken in this direction by the creation of nuclear- and chemical-weapons free zones in NATO and Warsaw Pact countries.

We understand the need for a policy ensuring mutual security. But in our view it is becoming increasingly evident that such a policy can only be based on confidence and mutual understanding, on coexistence and cooperation, on military equilibrium reduced to the lowest possible level and excluding either side's pursuit of superiority. As you know, we have not missed a single opportunity to uphold this fundamental policy guideline under any circumstances. This is precisely why today we can reject with total objectivity and firmness the attempts to transfer military rivalry into space. Thus, we have been and are opposed to the U.S. so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, because it would bring in its wake a new and terrifying arms race. The goals that science sets for itself can and must be different, more noble, and more humane!

There is no doubt that the responsibility and will of the two great powers play a paramount role. It is, however, just as evident that each state, each nation, and each people can make its own independent and original contribution to the solution of the dramatic problems of the contemporary epoch. The mobilization of the broad masses of the people, women, intelligentsia, and youth and of movements of the most diverse ideological, political, and religious orientations is decisively significant for the cause of peace and for the struggle against backwardness, underdevelopment, and hunger.

The Italian Communists' policy is aimed at ensuring that the peoples from both blocs, without renouncing their membership of the corresponding alliance, could put forward their own proposals and initiatives. The European Community in particular can and must make an independent contribution to the solution of the major international problems that are now pending.

Cooperation and the expansion of exchanges between the EEC and CEMA can provide a powerful boost to the development of a new atmosphere of detente and fruitful cooperation in Europe.

The numerous military conflicts taking place in different parts of our world are the cause of profound anxiety for the fate of the detente process. In the course of our conversation we told you our viewpont and stated our position on each one of them. In our view, there can be no situation which justifies military interference by one country against another, no matter what the motives may be, and even less a situation which justifies interference in the internal affairs of other countries. The ongoing conflicts and tensions are sources of grave suffering for the peoples who are their victims and are one of the main causes of instability and insecurity, as well as a permanent threat to the fate of peace all over the world.

Now it is necessary to galvanize efforts and augment initiatives to settle these conflicts and tensions through talks guaranteeing security in these regions, each state's full sovereignty, and every people's right to self-determination.

The international community is also called upon to concentrate its efforts to prevent and defeat any act of terrorism and criminality in the international arena, and also to affirm and uphold the norms of absolute adherence to international law and to peaceful and civilized community among nations. The settlement of existing conflicts and tension on the basis of talks and the resolute struggle against all forms of international terrorism have now become urgent, particularly in the Mediterranean and the Near East, which constitute a region fraught with instability and danger. There can be no way out of this tragedy without recognition of the right to security for all states in the region including Israel, or without recognition of the Palestinian people's right to have their own motherland and state.

Dear Comrade Gorbachev, Dear Comrades,

Our talks are taking place on the eve of important events -- our two parties' congresses. We follow with great attention the preparations for your congress and the innovative initiatives that are part of this process. The prospects and avenues for the development of a vast country like yours, its weight and the role it plays in the world, cannot fail to generate the keenest of interest, particularly among forces advocating social transformations and progress. We know that you are setting yourselves the task of effecting profound changes and transformations in your economy and in your society.

Of course, the more tangible the results, the broader will be the participation of all Soviet working people and Soviet citizens. There can be no substitute for the creative force of democracy.

We wish you complete success in your aspirations, which are aimed at the inauguration of a new and remarkable stage in Soviet society's life.

We in Italy are setting ourselves the task of transition to a new phase -- a phase of reform and regeneration of society and the state. In more general terms, we are struggling to advance the process of socialist transformations, whose prerequisite and base both in Italy and in other developed West European countries are provided by the full development of democracy and the participation of different social and political forces. Following our first teachers, we recalled in our precongress theses that socialism must be a society in which "the free development of each individual is a condition for the free development of all." The alignment and cooperation of various workers movement and left-wing forces are essential for this prospect of the world, for the progress of democracy, and for socialist solutions in West Europe. Our party considers itself an integral part of the European left-wing forces and intends to act in the direction of the reunification of their various components.

Before I conclude, allow me to thank you, Comrade Gorbachev and other Soviet comrades present here, for the kind hospitality and for the conversations held during our visit. Our conversations were distinguished by an atmosphere of cordiality and great frankness on all the questions we discussed. In view of this, I think that it can be said that they were useful and constructive.

We look upon relations between parties of the international workers movement as relations between totally autonomous and independent parties, each one of which expresses its own opinion and policy. The comparison of their experiences, the free and open exchange of opinions, and the mutual respect -- even when differences and noncoinciding positions emerge -- are a prerequisite for their relations of friendship and cooperation.

It is in this spirit and on this basis that we intend to continue to build relations between our two parties, being convinced that this is in the interest not only of Communists but also of all forces of progress and peace, in the interests of the further development of all-around and mutually advantageous relations of friendship and cooperation between Italy and the Soviet Union and between the Italian and Soviet peoples.

Natta Describes Talks

PM311708 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 31 Jan 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent G. Zafesov dispatch: "Broad Exchange of Opinions"]

[Text] Rome, 30 Jan -- After its visit and talks in Moscow, the Italian Communist Party [PCI] delegation headed by A. Natta, PCI secretary general, has returned home. At the airport A. Natta shared his impressions of the trip with journalists. He said that the talks with M. S. Gorbachev ranged widely over problems concerning the two parties, the two countries, and the international situation. Pointing to the open and frank nature of the discussion, A. Natta noted: "We put on record the points in our positions on which we coincide and on which we differ. I think that we took a considerable step forward in understanding each other's positions." A. Natta pointed out that the term "wrench," which is often used in the Italian press, is unsuitable because there was never any "wrench" between the PCI and the CPSU in the ordinary sense of the word. It can only be a question of the independence [avtonomnost] of viewpoints and criticisms which are mutually useful. "This has never prevented contacts between parties such as the PCI and such a great entity of the entire world as the USSR. Breaking off these would be stupid," A. Natta stated, "although some people have been nudging us in that direction." A. Natta, pointing to the PCI's complete autonomy [avtonomiya], stressed that the party's independence [nezavisimost] depends on the party itself. "The PCI has extensive relations with all left-wing forces in Europe and worldwide," he said.

The newspaper L'UNITA, the PCI organ, stresses that pride of place in the talks between M. S. Gorbachev and A. Natta went to the most urgent and acute international problems. "We talked about highly imortant problems," Natta told journalists, "and primarily about maintaining peace, the danger of a new war, the need for disarmament, and a number of other issues. I want to remind you that the importance of the questions of maintaining peace was not only discussed during the talks. It is also contained in the USSR's recent proposals."

A. Natta dwelt in particular on questions of European security, which "directly interest us." "We discussed for a long time," Natta said, "how to rid the European Continent entirely of medium-range missiles region by region."

"Pointing to the importance of the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva, the PCI secretary general stressed that "it opened up new prospects," although there is still a difficult road ahead. In is opinion, the USSR has a staunch faith in the possibility of developing a dialogue in order to achieve detente and security and is convinced that not only the USSR and the United States should participate in that dialogue. "Each country can and must make its own contribution," A. Natta said.

TASS REPORTS PROCEEDINGS AT AGCA TRIAL IN ROME

LD041831 Moscow TASS in English 1651 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Rome, February 4 TASS -- TASS correspondent Viktor Solomin reports:

Hearings have resumed after a three-week break here today at the Rome trial dealing with the attempted assassination of Pope John Paul the Second in May 1981. At the very start of the hearings, prosecuting attorney A. Marini was again trying to cling to the totally exposed "Bulgarian connection". He requested the court that it "profoundly examine" the written testimony of some Turkish mafiosi, who allegedly have information of the "complicity" of the Bulgarians in the plot, which came from Turkey. The court declined the demand of the prosecuting attorney on the grounds that the examination of witnesses had been completed and gave Marini the floor for the speech for the prosecution.

Already the opening part of his speech showed that the prosecution had no convincing facts to prove the guilt of Sergei Antonov and other Bulgarian citizens. A. Marini stressed more than once that this is a very difficult trial and that a whole number of "important" witnesses, including Oral Celik, a terrorist from the Turkish "Gray Wolves" neofascist organization, who is hiding, have not been heard. According to Ali Agca, who shot the pope, Oral Celik was on that tragic day together with him in St. Peter's Square. All this, A. Marini said, has extremely complicated the establishment of truth. During the break between the court session, a number of journalists exchanging views, quite aptly remarked that when speaking about witnesses the prosecuting attorney did not say a word about the conclusions of investigating judge Ilario Martella, who deliberately failed to take into account a number of aspects exposing the "Bulgarian connection" version and took on trust many false claims made by Ali Agca.

At the hearings in court names of some witnesses were mentioned, whose testimony leads to the headquarters of the Western secret services and neofascist circles.

A. Marini passed that over in silence and resorted to a sordid method. He placed on a par Ali Agca, a criminal sentenced to imprisonment for life, and Sergei Antonov, who was slandered by the Turk. The prosecuting attorney was unhappy over the fact that Sergei has for sometime been absent from the count hearings. The same thing, as he said, was repeatedly done by Agca too. But it is well known that physicians diagnosed a sharp deterioration of Sergei Antonov's health, which was undermined by more than three years of detention.

As a TASS correspondent was told by well-known Bulgarian investigator Jordan Ormankov, who is present in court, A. Marini would apparently stick to his charges, which have already more than once been exposed on the course of the hearings, to the very end. I do not believe he will be able to uphold them, J. Ormankov said.

The speech by the prosecuting attorney will take five or six sessions, then the counsels for the defence will be given the floor. The verdict is expected to be passed early in March.

LE MONDE ON FRENCH TRADE MINISTER'S MOSCOW TALKS

PM041227 Paris LE MONDE in French 2-3 Feb 86 p 5

[Dominique Dhombres dispatch: "Mr Beregovoy's Visit to Moscow: France's 'Initial Response' to Gorbachev Plan"]

[Text] Moscow -- Minister of Economy, Finance, and Budget Pierre Beregovoy was received on 31 January in Moscow by Foreign Minister Shevardnadze, to whom he delivered a letter from French President Mitterrand addressed to Mr Gorbachev. The message constitutes an "initial response" to the nuclear disarmament plan put forward by the Soviet leader on 15 January, Mr Beregovoy said. On 14 January the USSR ambassador in Paris, Mr Vorontsov, himself handed Mr Mitterrand a letter from Mr Gorbachev outlining the nature of his plan.

The French position is well known and this "initial response" merely reasserts it, Mr Beregovoy said. Paris is in favor of every reduction of nuclear weapons but expects the two major powers to take the first step, in view of the discrepancy that exists between their arsenals and France's or Britain's. Furthermore, France wishes to give priority to the reduction of conventional weapons so as to achieve a real strategic balance, particularly in Europe.

"Our conversation was frank, open, and to the point," Mr Beregovoy said. The French minister also met with Vadim Zagladin, first deputy chief the CPSU's International Section -- an old acquaintance. There are many rumors in Moscow at the moment of Mr Zagladin's possible promotion during the runup to the 27th congress, which begins on 25 February. Mr Beregovoy gained from his meeting the impression that his interlocutor is very much in favor but gave no more details. It is said that Mr Zagladin could soon replace Mr Ponomarev as head of the party's international section or be given an important government or diplomatic post.

On Thursday Mr Beregovoy was received by Boris Aristov, the new foreign trade minister. He repeated to him Paris' desire -- voiced recently by French Foreign Trade Minister Cresson at the meeting of the French-Soviet Grand Commission -- for an adjustment in the balance of trade between the two countries. The trade deficit against France is still substantial because of the increased supplies of Soviet gas. The minister of economy, finance, and budget urged a diversification of trade, and particularly better access to the Soviet market for French food products, not just wheat.

Mr Beregovoy also spoke of the "confidence" of another of his interlocutors, Viktor Dementsev, the new chairman of the state bank (Gosbank). The latter reckoned the loss of revenue to the Soviet treasury resulting from reduced production and sales of alcohol, following the vigorous antidrink campaign launched some months ago, to be R12 billion a year (the theoretical equivalent of fr120 billion). The Gosbank chairman also expressed concern about the impact of falling oil prices. The collapse of world prices implies a considerable reduction of the USSR's foreign currency earnings, especially since output has been falling over the past 3 years, and this trend could increase over the next 5-year plan (1986-1990).

Mr Beregovoy, who arrived in Moscow Wednesday evening, is due to spend the weekend in Leningrad before returning to Paris Monday.

REPORTAGE, COMMENTARY ON INTERCEPTION OF LIBYAN PLANE

LD051822 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 5 Feb 86

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] As has already been reported, a civilian Libyan airliner was intercepted by Israeli air pirates yesterday and forced to land on Israeli territory. All the facts about this airliner, which was traveling from Tripoli to Damascus, were provided for the Israelis from U.S. warships that were taking part in U.S. Air Force and Naval maneuvers which ended recently very near the coast of Libya. The plane was subjected to an illegal examination at a military base in northern Israel. Its passengers were also subjected to a search. According to a report from Israeli radio, the plane and its passengers was allowed to continue its interrupted journey. As a result of a request from the Syrian Government, the UN Security Council has started to discuss Israeli's act of piracy in international airspace in regard to the Libyan civilian airliner which had an official Syrian delegation on board.

Libya Informs Socialist Envoys

LD052151 Moscow TASS in English 2131 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Tripoli, February 5 TASS -- The heads of the diplomatic missions of socialist countries in the Libyan Jamahiriyah were invited to the People's Bureau for External Relations, where they were received by the bureau deputy secretary Daw 'Ali Suwaydan. He informed the ambassadors that on February 4 two Israeli Airforce fighters intercepted in neutral airspace a Libyan commercial aircraft with an official Syrian delegation aboard en route from Tripoli to Damascus and under the threat of the use of force made it land at an Israeli Air Force base. This piratic action constitutes the manifestation of terrorism made a state policy, Daw 'Ali Suwaydan said.

Israel threw down a challenge to the public at large, by demonstrating that it does not intend to consider the norms of international law and is ready to violate the provisions that ensure the safety of flights.

These actions by the Israeli military would have been impossible had it not been for support by the United States, the deputy secretary of the People's Bureau for External Relations said. At the present stage joint terrorists acts are masterminded and carried through at full speed within the framework of the U.S.-Israeli strategic alliance. This was the case in October 1985 when U.S. fighters diverted in a gangster manner an Egyptian commercial airliner and when Israeli aircraft launched the barbaric raid on the Tunisian capital.

This time ships of the U.S. Sixth Fleet that were moved to the Mediterranean in connection with the provocative manoeuvres off the Libyan coast supplied the Israeli Air Force with the necessary espionage information for intercepting the Libyan aircraft. So, the United States shares with Tel Aviv the entire responsibility for the latter's crimes, Daw 'Ali Suwaydan emphasized. Besides, it was officially announced in the United States that ships of its Sixth Fleet were returning to the area of the Mediterranean Sea, which creates anew the real threat of a U.S. aggression against the Libyan people.

Act Called 'Air Piracy'

PM051714 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Feb 86 First Edition p 5

[Pavel Demchenko "Commentator's Column:" "Air Banditry"]

[Text] A new act of air banditry has been committed in the Near East. There are no otherwords to describe it. Judge for yourselves: A passenger aircraft is flying in international air space, not engaged in any illegal activity, giving no reason for force to used against it, and suddenly fighter aircraft swoop down upon it and force it to land at an Israeli military airfield. This is followed by a search of both the aircraft and its passengers, an inspection of passports and belongings....

An ABC-TV correspondent reports that "the Israelis were dismayed at having committed such a crude mistake." What was the mistake? Apparently that G. Habash and A. Jibril, leaders of two Palestinian organizations whom they expected to capture, were not among the passengers. "Dismayed," you see, because they had to let the aircraft go without getting anything for their pains, and not just because an act of air piracy was committed and the norms of international law were crudely trampled. To judge by everything, the latter fact could not have dismayed the Tel Aviv leadership -- for many years now arbitrariness toward the Arabs has been a norm of their behavior rather than an exception to the rule.

Furthermore, this course is intertwined with U.S. policy and practice in the Near East. Let me recall, for example, that on 1 September last year Israeli bombers hit the PLO headquarters in Tunis. The world public was indignant, but the United States took the aggressor under its wing at the United Nations. Later the U.S. Air Force itself attacked an Egyptian passenger aircraft, forced it to land in Sicily, and would have arrested its passengers had the Italian security guards at the airfield not intervened. At that time against the background of universal condemnation, it was the Israeli propaganda that took its transatlantic patron under its wing, singing all kinds of praises for its piratical operation. Not only the similarity but also the coordinated nature of actions by Israel and the United States are particularly visible now. It is well known that U.S. sanctions against Libya came in force 1 February. These sanctions were not backed by even the closet U.S. allies in NATO. But Tel Aviv has delivered! By attacking a civilian aircraft, it has demonstrated once again both its devotion to Washington and its commitment to the policy of crude force. A new act of state terrorism has been committed, which whips up and complicates still further the Near East situation.

Interception Linked to U.S. Actions

LD051457 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Yuriy Solton commentary]

[Text] The United Nations Security Council is discussing the interception of a Libyan plane by Israel in international airspace. Here is what Radio Moscow news analyst Yuriy Solton writes:

A civilian plane of the Libyan airlines was making a routine flight from Tripoli to Damascus. Halfway between Cyprus and Syria it was attacked by Israeli fighter planes. Threatening to use weapons, they made the plane land at a military base in Israel. The passengers, which included an official Syrian delegation, were subjected to a humiliating search. After several hours of delay the plane was allowed to resume its flight. There can be no two opinions about what had happened: this was an act of air piracy. That is how Israel's so-called lawful right to self-defense looks like in practice.

So what is the difference between the Israeli air pirates and ordinary criminals -- the hijackers? Actually, the only difference is that in one case it is lone terrorists who are involved and in the second it is a whole country armed to the teeth with latest American military weapons and hardware. Incidentally, Israel follows the example of its senior partner in (?the) strategic engagement, the United States. It was only recently that American military planes intercepted in international airspace a civilian airliner belonging to an Egyptian company. They, too, threatened to use weapons and made it land at a NATO base in Sicily. And, as it was reported at the time, the Israeli intelligence supplied the Americans with all the necessary information. This time the Americans seem to have paid back that little debt of theirs, although Washington denies it.

It is a fact, however, that American spy planes are constantly present near the shores of Libya. And one more thang: Israel's piratic act is quite in line with the anti-Libyan campaign of blackmail and military threats conducted by Washington. And again the partners in the strategic engagement act together. Newspapers write that the Israeli naval ships will take part in the new provocative naval exercises of the American fleet off Libyan shores and it has emerged that the American fighter planes based on aircraft carriers rehearsed bomb strikes at an Israeli training ground in the Negev desert. It has also been reported that Tel Aviv and Washington mapped out together the targets in Libya which could be hit by bombs and missiles. So Washington and Tel Aviv, which say so many angry words about terrorism, have made terrorism government policy.

U.S. CRITICIZED FOR BLAMING TERRORISM ON LIBYA

PM051049 Moscow LITERATURNAYA GAZETA in Russian 29 Jan 86 p 9

[Igor Belyayev "Viewpoint": "Dangerous Games"]

[Text] U.S.-Israeli games against Libya are being persistently continued. The economic sanctions announced by the United States have come into force. The clearly provocative maneuvers by the U.S. 6th Fleet near the Libyan coast are continuing. The possibility of Pentagon military action spearheaded against Colonel M. al-Qadhdhafi continues to be discussed. However, it is becoming increasingly obvious that the United States is not succeeding in its main aim of creating the very atmosphere of total license which would enable it to crush Libya. Just as it did Grenada, for instance.

I recall that U.S. politicians accuse Libya of supporting "international terrorism." They claim, in particular, that there are allegedly 12 (!) special camps on its territory. Those who murdered entirely innocent passengers at Rome and Vienna Airports 27 December 1985 were allegedly trained in them. The training of Palestinian terrorists is led by the same Abu Nidal...

But this is what is known. K. Blecha, interior minister of Austria, a country which suffered from the terrorist act, stated: "There is no evidence that the Libyan authorities supported the terrorist group that operated in Vienna. Both of the terrorists caught by the police stated that they had never been to Libya and were not trained there." So how did they get to Austria? By train, so it is alleged. We recall the date on which a press conference was held at which the Austrian minister spoke, together with his Italian colleague O. Scalfaro incidentally -- 10 January 1986.

The next day T. Brokaw, an NBC anchor in San Francisco, stated: "...The United States has no idea where Abu Nidal is."

On 14 January ABC correspondent (J. McWethy) noted: "Specialists from military intelligence and law and order organs say that the world is now seeing a new type of terrorist operation -- young people aged 20 and above who can unthinkingly shoot women and children, and religious fanatics who consciously commit suicide behind the wheel of a truckload of explosives...The Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon are the main source [ochag] of them."

The appropriate question is: Just where are the camps -- Libya or Lebanon? There is a quite unexpected answer to that question -- Syria! How can one fail to realize that all the talk of Libyan or other terrorist training camps is no more than a cover for the military-political games conducted against Libya by the main participants -- the United States and Israel.

So how did Syria join the list of countries pandering to "international terrorism"? State Department Spokesman B. Kalb, replying to this question, stated 13 January that "the main U.S. aim is to encourage Syria to refrain from supporting terrorism, and to that end we included Syria in the list of terrorist states." How simple it is -- the Syrian Arab Republic has been picked up and put on some list of "terrorist countries"!

At the same time B. Kalb noted: "We are trying to persuade Syria to expel the Abu Nidal grouping completely."

Again the question arises: Where is Abu Nidal, if he is still alive -- Libya or Syria?

U.S. Secretary of State G. Shultz, speaking on CBS TV's "Face the Nation," could not say definitely where the Rome and Vienna terrorists had come from. Then he was asked: "You cannot say? Then, of course, the question arises of the competence of our entire intelligence system in connection with all acts of terrorism. The fact that we were unable to precisely determine the allegiance of these groups, their location, and where Abu Nidal is at any given moment is of serious concern..."

And yet despite the quite obvious inability to confirm the accusations made against Libya, President Reagan last week railed against M. al-Qadhdhafi "for all he was worth."

What if, in the interests of weeding out the truth, we divorce ourselves... from everything linked with the anti-Libyan and anti-Syrian campaign pursued by the United States? Then it will become obvious that we are dealing with highly dangerous and -- in terms of their consequences -- even unpredictable military games aimed at creating a pretext for "punishing" Libya and Syria.

The role of "punisher" is played by those circles in the United States and Israel who do not like the current situation in an Arab world that is seeking and finding true allies against new wars in the region. They want to impose capitulation, to force acceptance of a U.S.-Israeli diktat, and to close people's eyes to the "state terrorism" of Washington and Tel Aviv, by which they plan to resolve their tasks in the Near East and North Africa. Acts of terrorism whose nature has still to be explained are just a cover for implementing U.S.-Israeli military-political games. There is no evidence of Libyan or Syrian complicity in them. I am convinced that, on learning the truth about what happened and on gaining a more accurate grasp of the ulterior motives behind recent events and the futility of trying to prove Libyan and Syrian complicity, the world will reject and condemn this kind of policy as blatantly imperialist and totally alien to the true desire for peace.

LIBYA SUPPORTS GORBACHEV NUCLEAR ARMS PROPOSALS

LD060547 Moscow TASS in English 2354 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] New York, February 5 TASS -- Libya welcomes the proposals contained in the statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev on the need to terminate any nuclear blasts and prevent the arms race in outer space, which reflect the will of the international community, says a letter addressed by 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki, secretary of the Libyan People's Bureau for External Relations, to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. It was released here as an official document of the U.N. General Assembly.

KUWAITI OIL MINISTER MEETS WITH COUNTERPART IN MOSCOW

LD060926 Kuwait KUNA in English 0800 GMT 6 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, Feb 6 (KUNA) -- Kuwaiti-Soviet official talks are scheduled to begin here Thursday between the visiting Oil and Industry Minister of Kuwait Shaykh 'Ali al-Khalifa al-Athbi and his Soviet counterpart Vasiliy Dinkov concerning various issues in the oil field.

Shaykh 'Ali who arrived here late Wednesday night at the invitation of the Soviet Minister of Petroleum and Industry Vasiliy Dinkov is also scheduled to hold a meeting with the Chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Affairs Kostantin Katishov.

Today's agenda includes working groups meetings between the Kuwaiti delegation and the Soviet officials of the Ministry of Petroleum Industry in addition to a visit to the Soviet economic exhibition. The accompanying delegation includes Director of the London-based Kuwait Petroleum International Abd al-Samad al-Awadi, Deputy Chairman of Kuwait Petrochemical Industries Company (PIC) Husseyn al-Jasim, PIC Deputy Managing Director for Marketing Affairs Tawfiq al-Gharabli and PIC Executive Assistant Managing Director for the Eastern Hemisphere Abdallah al-Rumi. Shaykh 'Ali who is here on a week-long official visit, is expected to hold a series of meetings with Soviet officials and discuss with them several issues including bilateral economic cooperation between the two countries.

On arrival at Moscow international airport, Shaykh 'Ali was received by the Chairman of the Soviet State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations Konstantin Katishov and other officials of the Petroleum industry and the Kuwaiti charge d'affairs in Moscow, Abd al-Latif al-Mawash. Shaykh 'Ali arrived here after attending a meeting in Vienna of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) committee which was convened to review the current situation in the oil market involving the supply and demand position and the drop in oil prices in general.

VISIT TO TUNISIA BY FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY CONCLUDES

PM041601 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Visit Over"]

[Text] Tunis, 29 Jan -- The official visit to Tunisia by a delegation of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries headed by Ye.V. Zaytsev, USSR first deputy minister of culture and chairman of the board of the USSR-Tunisia Friendship Society, has ended.

The delegation was here at the invitation of B. Ben Slama, Tunisian minister of culture and chairman of the Tunisia-USSR Friendship Society.

During its stay in Tunisia, the Soviet delegation was received by Prime Minister M. Mzali and held talks with the country's statesmen. Documents of further developing cultural and scientific cooperation between the two countries' friendship societies were signed.

B. Ben Slama spoke highly of Soviet-Tunisian cooperation. The Tunisian-USSR Friendship Society, he said, aims to strengthen and further expand cultural ties with the USSR peoples. We want to become more closely acquainted with Soviet people's lives and their achievements in various spheres of socioeconomic life.

COOPERATION PACT WITH SUDAN SIGNED IN MOSCOW

PM031105 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 31 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under the general heading "Official Reports"]

[Text] A plan for cultural and scientific cooperation between the USSR and the Republic of the Sudan for 1986-1987 was signed in Moscow 30 January. It envisages further developing cooperation in the spheres of culture, art, science, education, cinematography, television, radiobroadcasting, health care, sports, and training national cadres.

ALIYEV, PONOMAREV MEET WITH ETHIOPIAN LEADERS

LD051829 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1718 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Moscow, 5 Feb (TASS) -- Geydar Aliyev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Boris Ponomarev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had meetings on 3 and 5 February with a delegation of the Workers' Party of Ethiopia [WPE], comprising Fikre-Selassie Wogderes, member of the WPE Central Committee Political Bureau, secretary general of the Provicional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of Socialist Ethiopia; Alemu Abebe, member of the WPE Central Committee Political Bureau chairman of the Central Control Commission of the WPE Central Committee and head of the International Department of the WPE Central Committee; and Nesibu Taye, member of the WPE Central Committee and Socialist Ethiopia's ambassador to the USSR.

The delegation handed over a message from Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the WPE Central Committee and chairman of the PMAC, for Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The participants in the meetings noted with satisfaction the successful development and fruitful nature of the cooperation between the CPSU and the WPE, and the Soviet Union and Socialist Ethiopia, and declared themselves in favor of its further expansion. The WPE delegation declared full support by Socialist Ethiopia for the Soviet Union's new peaceful initiatives put forward in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement of 15 January 1986.

The discussion of topical problems concerning the current international situation, including the situation in the Middle East, southern Africa, the Indian Ocean, the Persian Gulf, and in other regions, confirmed the likeness of positions and mutual understanding of the sides, which invariably distinguish Soviet-Ethiopian relations. In an exchange of views on questions connected with the situation in the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, the importance of the speediest normalization of the situation in that country, and the inadmissibility of any outside interference in its internal affairs were emphasized.

TASS REPORTS ON ANGOLAN PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT

LD041833 Moscow TASS in English 1809 GMT 4 Feb 86

[Text] Luanda, February 4 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Semenov reports:

The situation in Angola remains complex and tense. The enemies of Angola are hatching sinister plans to hamper our advancement on the road of socialist orientation and put an end to the people's revolution in the People's Republic of Angola, said chairman of the MPLA's [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola] workers party, President Jose Eduardo dos Santos of the People's Republic of Angola.

Addressing a mass rally in the capital today on the occasion of the celebrations to mark the 25th anniversary of the start of the armed struggle against the colonialists, he stressed that the United States reactionary circles, which do not recognize the sovereignty and independence of the People's Republic of Angola, are trying to decide the destiny of the People's Angola and bring to power the "good guy" Jonas Savimbi, who is devoted to them.

The U.S. Administration intends to supply the UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] gangs with weapons and ammunition and give them financial aid. All this may lead only to new casualties and sufferings among the Angolan people.

Washington, Jose Eduardo dos Santos pointed out, is not above any methods of upholding the selfish interests of the racist Republic of South Africa, using methods of pressuring the Angolan Government and trying to make it withdraw the Cuban internationalist force from the country and in the final analysis ensure with the assistance of UNITA and the Pretoria regime the overthrow of revolutionary power in the People's Republic of Angola. The USA is even ready to invade Angola itself. That is precisely why it is doing its utmost in an attempt to prevent the implementation of the U.S. Security Council Resolution 435 on decolonisation of Namibia, being concerned above all with its own strategic interests.

If a new aggression is launched against the People's Republic of Angola, the head of the Angolan state said, we will not hesitate to resort to internationalist aid of our friends and allies. The Angolan people has already more than once given a fitting rebuff to all sorts of imperialism's placemen and stooges. This will also be the sorry destiny of UNITA chief Savimbi, J.E. dos Santos said. Reaction will not pass in Angola, nobody will be able to break our will for true freedom and independence and sidetrack us from the path of socialist orientation, the head of the Angolan state stressed.

ANGOLAN ENVOY TO UN PROTESTS SAVIMBI'S U.S. VISIT

LD290719 Moscow TASS in English 0638 GMT 29 Jan 86

[Text] New York, January 28 TASS -- Permanent representative of the People's Republic of Angola at the United Nations Elisio de Figueiredo protested against the [words indistinct] by the U.S. Administration for counter-revolutionary units operating in the south of Angola. At a press conference here he stressed that Washington had already supplied up to 300 million dollars to bandit units to stage subversive operations against the People's Republic of Angola. Ringleader of bandit units Jonas Savimbi has turned up in Washington and will be seeking more handouts, Elisio de Figueiredo said. The ringleader of the counter-revolutionaries represents only a handful of bandits who have nothing in common with the Angolan people.

DEVELOPMENT AID AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH ANGOLA

PM301139 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 30 Jan 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Talks Held"]

[Text] On 28 January, Soviet-Angolan talks were held in the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations with Lopo do Nascimento, minister of planning of the People's Republic of Angola (PRA), at which questions of expanding and deepening economic cooperation between the USSR and the PRA were discussed.

A number of intergovernmental documents on assisting Angola in the development of its agriculture, livestock breeding, fishery, and public health care were signed.

LIGACHEV, CASTRO ADDRESS THIRD PCC CONGRESS

Ligachev Speech

LD052224 Moscow TASS in English 2210 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, February 5 TASS -- The Third Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba [PCC] is being held in the Havana Palace of congresses in a businesslike, constructive atmosphere. Its delegates have started discussing the report that was delivered on the first day of the congress by the First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, Chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic Fidel Castro. Addressing the congress, they speak with pride about the big and undeniable achievements of the Cuban people which under the leadership of the Communist Party is confidently solving the tasks of socialist construction.

Foreign guests are also addressing the congress. The speech by the head of the CPSU delegation, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Yegor Ligachev was received with stormy applause. Follows the full text of his speech:

First of all permit me on behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on behalf of all Soviet Communists to extend most heartfelt greetings to your party congress. The country of Vladimir Ilich Lenin, the homeland of the October Revolution sends its fraternal greetings to the island of freedom.

It is with much attention and friendly interest that we listened to Comrade Fidel Castro's report to the highest forum of Cuban Communists. His report is a major political document and the implementation of its provisions will serve the cause of the Cuban revolution, the cause of socialism.

The high prestige enjoyed by socialist Cuba among the peoples of Latin America and the whole world is the weightiest evidence that the Cuban Communists, all working people of your remarkable country are coping with honour with the tasks in the name of which the victorious Cuban revolution was accomplished 27 years ago.

During one of his conversations with Cuban comrades the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev stressed: "You had to begin virtually from scratch. While now Cuba has a plan economy, an excellent system of education, a streamlined system of state bodies and a militant Marxist-Leninist party. The Cuban society is a mature society".

Your example has shown the whole world that even a small people, on throwing off the fetters of imperialist oppression and relying on the fraternal assistance of socialist countries, of all progressive forces, is capable of defending its independence, the sacred right to shape its destiny itself, without outside interference.

Cuba has demonstrated that the most acute social problems can be successfully solved even in a country that is not rich in resources if its development is subordinated to the interests of the working people and is inspired by the idea of justice.

Cuba is the first state in the Americas where working people rule, where citizens are guaranteed the right to work, to rest and leisure, where access to culture, to a worthy and free life is open to all.

At the same time, listening to the speeches at this congress, we note with satisfaction that Cuban Communists are not resting on their laurels. They view all the accomplishments of people's power first of all as a basis for further work, and speak with openness both about successes and about the shortcomings and problems that are still awaiting their solution. This approach is close and understandable to us, Soviet Communists. It fully accords with the behests of Marx and Lenin who insisted that a revolutionary party is duty bound to approach its entire activity critically. This enables it to avoid stagnation and routine, to move constantly onward.

The economy, as is known, is of key importance for the development of every socialist country. The socialist system opens new prospects of raising the material and cultural standard of the life of people that are beyond the reach of the former economic formations. An effective use of socialism's huge economic potential can be made only if the Communist Party successfully plays its guiding role in society. The 3rd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba convincingly shows that you have a realistic economic strategy, and we wish the Cuban Communists successes in implementing it.

The development of socialist economic integration and participation in the work of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance offer important reserves of the social and economic development of each socialist country. For many years already my country is Cuba's biggest economic partner. During the past five-year period Soviet-Cuban trade turnover approached the quite impressive figure of 34 billion roubles. Our economic ties will become even broader during the current five-year period.

On behalf of the CPSU Central Committee I want to state with all responsibility that we have fulfilled and will fulfill meticulously and undeviatingly our commitments to Cuba. You can rely on the Soviet Union.

And now, comrades, permit me to inform you briefly about the present-day life of the Soviet people.

Not so long ago the world marked the 40th anniversary of victory over fascism. In the past world war Soviet people, guided by the Communist Party, displayed unprecedented heroism and made the decisive contribution to the rout of the Hitlerite invaders who wanted to enslave the whole of mankind. In the post-war years, in conditions of the arms race launched by the imperialists, we had to divert considerable means to defend the socialist gains and uphold peace. Judge for yourselves, comrades. But even in that situation, a situation that, frankly, is not conducive to peaceful construction, my country advanced far along the road of all-round progress. The national income in the USSR has grown almost four-fold during the past 25 years. Socialist democracy has been further developed and socialist law and order have been strengthened. It is impossible to underestimate the fact that we have succeeded in preserving peace during the past decades. We regard as a historic accomplishment the strategic military parity that has been established between the Soviet Union and the United States.

As you know, comrades, the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will soon be convened in Moscow. With what we are approaching the congress? What is characteristic of the political atmosphere in my country?

What matters most, I believe, is the strengthening unity of the party and the people, the spirited, enthusiastic mood of the working masses, the intensive, imaginative work of labour collectives, of all party organisations to fulfil plans of the country's social and economic progress, of qualitatively renovating all aspects of society's life.

Soviet society's economic, scientific and spiritual potential has grown substantially during the past five-year-plan period, in the years between the 26th and 27th Party Congresses.

Yet I will tell you frankly that not everything went smoothly. The process of intensifying production was implemented slowly and lagged behind the planned schedule. Neither could we be satisfied with the rates of economic growth and the state of discipline. Weaknesses in the style and methods of party and state work had surfaced. The solution of a number of ripe problems was drawn out and the study of pressing issues was put off for "afterwards". In short, we could not lull ourselves with achievements, had no right to do that.

A barrier to these negative trends was put up by the April 1985 plenary meeting of the CPSU Central Committee. It worked out a concept of accelerating the country's social and economic development on the basis of scientific and technological progress and the broad initiative of working people, formulated the party's truly innovative and, I would say, non-standard approaches to the solution of key questions of home and foreign policy. This strategic course was made the bedrock of the pre-congress documents: The new edition of the Party Programme, changes in the CPSU Rules, the guidelines for the social and economic development of the USSR to the end of this century. I would like to stress that all our plans, prospects and targets rest on our society's achievements in all the years of Soviet Government, on what has been accomplished by generations of Soviet people. The work to fulfill the current CPSU Programme, adopted in 1961, was also of much importance in this respect.

In order to fulfil the plans mapped out by the party it is necessary to switch the entire economy to the path of intensification within a short period of time. The measures taken by our party are subordinated to this aim: The restructuring of planning and management, the cadres policy, the strengthening of discipline and the development of the initiative of working people.

In its work the party attaches much importance to scientific and technological progress. The shortest road by which socialist countries are to reach the peaks of science and technology was outlined in the comprehensive programme of scientific and technological cooperation in the period to the year 2000, that was recently adopted by the CMEA countries. The Soviet Union will take part in the fulfilment of this programme with all its resources. And here we firmly intend to abide by the rule: Our achievements must be available to our friends.

In the years that have passed the Soviet Union, Cuba and other socialist countries had to solve their creative tasks in a complex, one could even say very tense international atmosphere that originated through the fault of reactionary imperialist forces. In that situation the countries of the socialist community pursued a firm and constructive course that accorded with the interests of all peoples. The concerted efforts of the peace forces did not fail to produce results. The summit meeting in Geneva was a major event of international life. Although the cardinal question of stopping the arms race on earth and preventing it in outer space was not resolved at the meeting, the joint statement of the leaders of the two world powers that nuclear war should never be unleashed and that neither side will strive to achieve military superiority is of much importance.

I must say with regret that the American Administration is continuing to intensify its efforts to fulfil the aggressive plans of the so called "star wars". The politicians in Washington, who talk so much about a clear sky for mankind, in reality want to literally cram (?it full of) offensive arms.

Washington's actions in respect of regional conflicts are acquiring an increasingly dangerous, risky nature.

The United States arbitrarily interferes in the internal affairs of sovereign states, builds up its direct and indirect military presence there. Yesterday the United States tried to deprive Vietnam of freedom and carried out an intervention against Grenada while today it wants to stifle Nicaragua, cooperates with the regime of apartheid in South Africa, encouraging it to military sallies against neighbours, sustains tension around Afghanistan and threatens sovereign Libya.

It is against the nature of socialist countries to want to appear in the role of unasked-for benefactors of other countries. It is our belief that every people has the right to choose its own road of development. But we have never been indifferent to the plight of others nor will we ever be. Soviet people have been and remain loyal to the principles of internationalism. We solidarise with the peoples of Nicaragua, Angola and other countries upholding their independence in the struggle against imperialist aggression. The Soviet people, just as all those who cherish the cause of freedom and independence, pay tribute to the internationalism of our Cuban brothers who are helping the working people of many countries in arranging and conducting their matters as they themselves see fit.

The Soviet Union's sympathies are entirely on the side of the countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America which for various reasons, and first of all because of plunder by colonialism and neocolonialism, have lagged in their economic development and are now trying to overcome this lag.

The question of war and peace is the main, fundamental problem of our time. The Soviet Union holds that inter-state relations should be strictly based on the principle of peaceful coexistence, on unconditional respect for the security interests of all states - big, medium and small. This historic task is served by the comprehensive Soviet plan of peace and disarmament set forth in the statement by the General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev. To approach by the year 2000 a world free of nuclear, chemical and all other types of weapons of mass annihilation, to rid mankind of the constant fear for its future, to switch to peaceful needs the tremendous means that are now being squandered on the arms race -- such is the noble, truly humane aim of these new Soviet initiatives.

Being guided by the interests of improving international relations the Soviet Union extended to March 31 the unilateral moratorium on all nuclear tests that we introduced in August of last year. To this day the American Administration has not yet responded to this example of political goodwill. The time of words is passing. The world expects actions.

Practical measures to stop the arms race would create new possibilities for overcoming the economic backwardness of Asian, African and Latin American countries. We vigorously support Cuba's principled statements against the fettering of developing countries by the usury capital of the United States, other imperialist countries and transnational corporations. This is a new channel of international plunder, one could call it "financial colonialism". The Soviet Union resolutely comes out for restructuring international economic relations on just principles.

The Cuban revolution raised the banner of socialism in the Western Hemisphere. You have confidently carried this banner through all trials. We are convinced that the decisions of the 3rd Congress of Cuban Communists will open new broad prospects before the country. In your noble struggle for the bright future of your country you can count, as always on the Soviet people's fraternal support.

Long live the Communist Party of Cuba!

Long live the cause of peace and social progress!

Castro Remarks Noted

LD060010 Moscow TASS in English 2132 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, February 5 TASS -- Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, chairman of the State Council and the Council of Ministers of the Republic, delivering a report to the 3rd Congress of the Communist Party of Cuba, has stressed that the five years following the 2nd party congress were, undoubtedly, a period of fruitful creative work of the Cuban people and successes of the revolution. This period was, probably, one of the most successful and fruitful five-year periods.

The average growth of the gross public product amounted to 7.3 per cent, considerably surpassing the planned five per cent. Industrial production grew by 8.8 per cent. Labour productivity increased by 5.2 per cent annually during the five-year period. It accounted for 74 per cent of the production growth. Individual consumption grew by 2.8 per cent a year while that from social funds by 7.1 per cent. The average monthly wage increased by 26.4 per cent over the five-year period.

The speaker then touched upon in detail on the development of various branches of the national economy. The production of sugar, he said, has grown over the five years by 12.2 per cent as compared with the previous period. A stable annual output of this product at a level of about eight million tons was achieved. The indicator, unfortunately, will be much lower in 1986 because of last year's prolonged drought and the serious damage inflicted by "Kate" hurricane.

A considerable part of the report dealt with the coming five-year period. Fidel Castro pointed out that an annual rate of economic growth at a level of approximately five per cent had been mapped out for 1986-1990. "Notwithstanding the unfavourable international situation, we can set such tasks before ourselves, taking into account the nature of our economic relations with the countries of the socialist community", he emphasized. "An average annual export growth rate will be five per cent and that of import only 1.5 per cent".

The effectiveness of the national economy is to be achieved mainly resultant of a rise in labour productivity the average annual rate of which will be approximately 3.5 per cent. The organisation of labour will be refined resultant of spreading the practice of setting up permanent comprehensive teams and developing their operation on a self-supporitng basis.

The implementation of scientific and technical programmes which have been worked out for the guidance of scientific efforts will be started in the new five-year plan period. They will concentrate on the solution of the most important strategic tasks of the national economy.

Touching upon the state of affairs in the world, Fidel Castro pointed out that the international situation in the past five years had been among the most tense and complex in the entire post-war period. It was notable for a growing threat to peace and for a real danger of an outbreak of a nuclear war in the conditions of the acutest economic crisis of the capitalist system, the crisis the disastrous consequences of which have been felt by Third World countries.

U.S. imperialism, the Reagan administration, in particular, bears the entire responsibility for the aggravation of the international situation, the Cuban leader emphasized. The U.S. Administration's foreign-policy course has assumed a dangerous character and is based on militarist concepts and on the intimidation of the U.S. public with an alleged "Soviet threat".

All this underlies a theory about a need for military superiority as the only guarantee of the defence of what the advocates of the course refer to as U.S. "interests".

The U.S. Administration has put pressure on its European NATO allies and on Japan to make them join this policy. Thus, implementing new and increasingly costly arms projects, the U.S. Government began to site in Europe 572 medium-range missiles aimed at the Soviet Union. All that reached culmination when the "star wars" programme was put forward.

The ominous course of U.S. foreign policy is being blocked to a considerable extent by the unshakable determination of the Soviet Union and of other countries of the socialist community to preserve peace, by resolute counter-actions by the progressive forces of Europe and of the whole world and by stout resistance of all revolutionary movements and Third-World countries.

The leadership of the CPSU has repeatedly come forward with clear-cut, bold and flexible proposals with a view to preserving peace and curbing the arms race. Thereby the United States Administration with its aggressive policy was deprived of the initiative, owing to which President Ronald Reagan, who had previously stated his unwillingness to negotiate with the USSR, had to agree to the summit in Geneva and to talks with Mikhail Gorbachev.

In Geneva, there appeared a hope for changes which could lead to greater mutual understanding which, in its turn, would promote serious steps to achieve detente and to ensure peace.

On January 15, this year, Comrade M.S. Gorbachev, in accordance with the principled line and position taken at the meeting in Geneva, put forward a programme of action for a period ending in the year 2000. The programme envisages complete elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world. Never before has such a categorical, resolute and concrete proposal been advanced ever since the emergence of this formidable mass-destruction weapon which has turned into a nightmare for the whole of mankind. The Soviet programme has met with universal approval.

Speaking of the situation in Latin America, the Cuban leader emphasized that the disgraceful occupation of the small Caribbean state of Grenada became a dramatic example of a reversion to the "big stick" policy which the Reagan administration tries to pursue on a world-wide scale. The USA sent powerful military forces to the island, exercising in practice the functions of a world policeman. All this is done, as has been earlier the case in Guatemala, Santo Domingo, in Vietnam, and other countries, on the plea of defence of democracy in the world and of U.S. security. Nicaragua and its young Sandinista revolution constitute the most vivid example of a comeback of the days of the imperialist "stick and carrot" policy. The present administration of the United States has set itself the aim of destroying the Sandinista revolution and of making it capitulate and accept conditions which are being imposed by the United States.

Nicaragua lives in the conditions of war which is being financed by the Pentagon and the CIA. They wage it through an army of hirelings whose bases are located in Honduras and Costa Rica.

However, the wheel of history cannot be turned backwards. The steady and courageous resolve of the Sandinistas not to retreat has become an obvious proof that the Cuban revolution is not an exception and that no power, however mighty, can impose its will upon a revolution which can defend itself. The Sandinista revolution, which bears the burden of economic hardships caused by war, which every day mourns over its killed sons and daughters and which, nevertheless, is firm in its determination to build a new independent democratic Nicaragua standing on the principles of nonalignment and pluralism, is holding out in spite of everything.

From the very outset Cuba came forward with an unlimited support for the Sandinista revolution. The dispatch of Cuban teachers, physicians, builders, as well as military advisers to that country is a modest manifestation of our solidarity. Cuba also took part in the search for a settlement of the Central American conflict through talks. The United States should abandon aggressive actions against the people of Nicaragua. Otherwise, to demand that Nicaragua assume any obligations would mean to demand capitulation of the Sandinista revolution during talks and renunciation of the country's sovereignty and independence.

The crisis which has shaken the economies of Latin America and Caribbean countries, Fidel Castro went on to say, has thrown the region back to the 1977 level in per capita output. From 1980 to 1985 the average annual growth of the Latin American economy was negligible -- only 0.5 percent in per capita terms. The rate of inflation grew 5.9 times over. The external indebtedness of Latin America and the Caribbean amounted to 368,000 million dollars in 1985. This year alone, Latin American counties have remitted 35,900 million dollars to foreign capitalists in repayment of interest. Latin America and the Caribbean are the region with the world's greatest debt.

When we put forward a thesis about its being impossible to repay the debt, we base ourselves on irrefutable calculations and arguments. The formula which is being suggested by Cuba is simple, understandable and quite practicable: the government of developed creditor countries should take upon themselves the Third-World debt to the banks of their countries. The 12 per cent of money which is now spent for military purposes should be used to repay the debt.

It should be added that a mere cancellation of the debt will not resolve the deep crisis of Third-World countries. What is needed is a new international economic order which has already been endorsed by the United Nations and which would put an end to inequitable exchanges, to protectionism, to dumping, to usurious interest rates, and to monetary machinations on the part of several developed capitalist powers.

The United States tries to count on the policy of force in Africa, in the Middle East, and in Asia but is suffering a fiasco there as well. The U.S. threats to Libya and the blockade of that country are creating an atmosphere of uncertainty in the Mediterranean and in the north of Africa. In the Middle East, the outcome of the U.S. actions to consolidate Israel's position is that no solution has been found to dramatic problems in Lebanon. On the whole, the situation in the region remains tense and difficult.

Fidel Castro took a favourable view of the positive approach of the People's Republic of China (PRC) to important matters of international life. The PRC's course towards achieving universal peace, its obligation as a nuclear power not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, and its condemnation of the U.S. "star wars" plans and support for the developing countries' demands in the field of international economic relations are part of the approach, the speaker pointed out, The process of delegation exchanges is developing, and the general attitude of mind in relations with the USSR is improving. All these are positive phenomena which should be welcomed.

Nevertheless, the members of our Party know that, despite the appropriate level of inter-state relations with China, there still remain some positions of the Communist Party of China on vitally important matters of international politics which have no and cannot have anything in common with ours -- such as, for example, hostility with regard to Vietnam, and aggressive actions against that country which in its heroic struggle against imperialism shed blood for the independence of all Third-World peoples as well. We hope that the day will come when this hostility, which darkens relations between Cuba and China and which prevents their improvement, will disappear.

A decisive role in the activities which our party has launched in the international arena these years belongs to the development and strengthening of ties which bring us together with the communist parties of the whole world and particularly with the parties of the countries of the socialist community, of which we are a member. To us, the cohesion of the communist movement with full mutual respect and freedom of opinion of each of its members is an important factor in the struggle for the development of socialism and for the realisation of a common strategy of peace and progress. The role of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in the accomplishment of this historic task is well known to everyone.

In our relations with developed capitalist countries we were guided by the policy of ordinary exchanges and mutually beneficial cooperation based on mutual respect regardless of the nature of social system. Cuba positively assesses the fact that in the period under review the U.S.-proclaimed course towards the establishment of a complete economic and financial blockade with regard to our country did not find response either in the European Economic Community or in Japan.

Touching upon relations with the United States, the speaker pointed out that the present U.S. Administration from the very outset took up an extremely aggressive attitude with regard to Cuba, which led to an intensification of the economic blockade and to a still greater, as compared with the previous administrations, toughening of measures which interfere with its normal trade and financial activities. Statements were shamelessly made about the elaboration of new plans for a military aggression and for subversive actions against the republic. With unheard-of impudence the United States continued to intrude into Cuba's air space.

Our party is again stating at this congress that Cuba, as has already been pointed out many times, does not refuse to sit down at the negotiating table in order to discuss the protracted conflict with the United States and to achieve peace and an improvement of relations between the two countries. We hold that this would promote an improvement of the political climate in the region and would also influence to a certain extent the political situation in the world. But such talks should be held on the basis of full respect for our country without the slightest encroachment upon its independence. This will become possible only when the United States will come to a decision to conduct serious talks with us and will be ready to hold them in the spirit of equality, mutual benefit and the fullest mutual respect.

CASTRO REPORTS 'PROVOCATIVE' SR-71 FLYBY

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[Text] Havana, February 6 TASS -- A U.S. supersonic spy plane, SR-71, made a provocative flyby of Cuba's territory Wednesday without entering its air space, Raul Castro, second secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, said at the current party congress here.

LIGACHEV MEETS WITH NICARAGUAN PRESIDENT

LD052313 Moscow TASS in English 2254 GMT 5 Feb 86

[Text] Havana, February 5 TASS -- On Tuesday Yegor Ligachev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting with President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua, the head of the SNLF [Sandinist National Liberation Front] delegation. The meeting passed in a warm and comradely atmosphere.